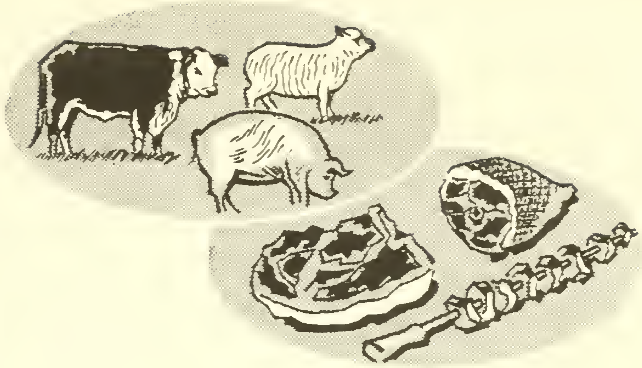
# LIVESTOCK and MEAT SITUATION

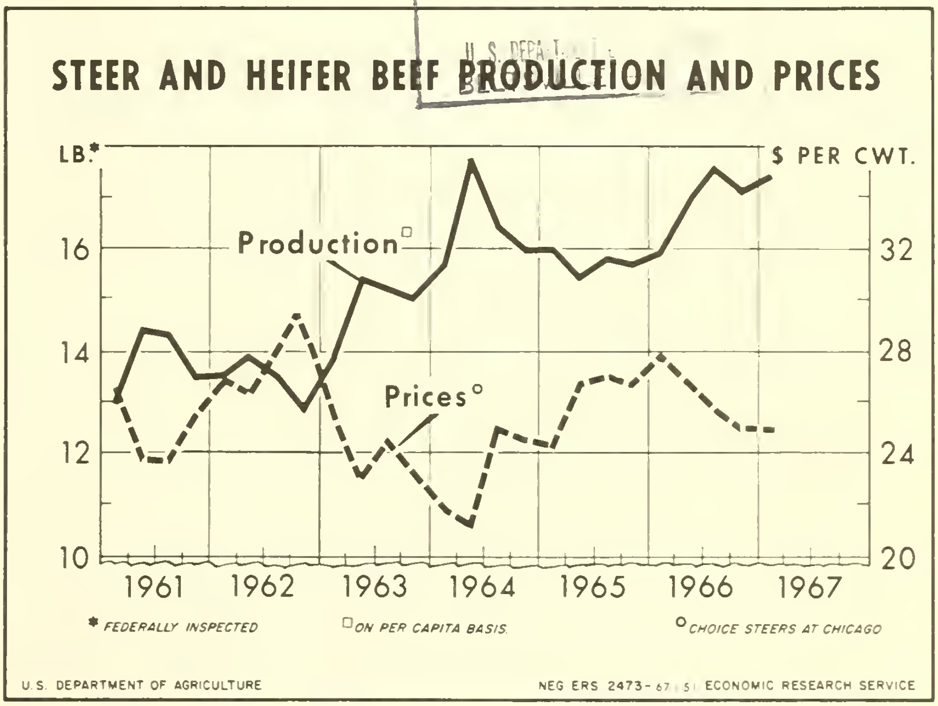


LMS-155 For Release May 10, A.M. MAY 1967



During the winter months, steer and heifer beef production rose about 12 percent above a year earlier. As a result of the sharp increase in supplies, fed cattle prices during January-March averaged $3 below the year-earlier level of $27.96. Although prices were down sharply from a year earlier, they averaged well above the low levels of early 1964, when per capita supplies were about the same.

Per capita supplies of steer and heifer beef this spring are expected to continue around winter levels. However, fed cattle prices are expected to strengthen slightly by midyear as a result of seasonally lower pork supplies and smaller production of non-fed beef, veal, and lamb.



STEER AND HEIFER BEEF PRODUCTION AND PRICES

## IN THIS ISSUE



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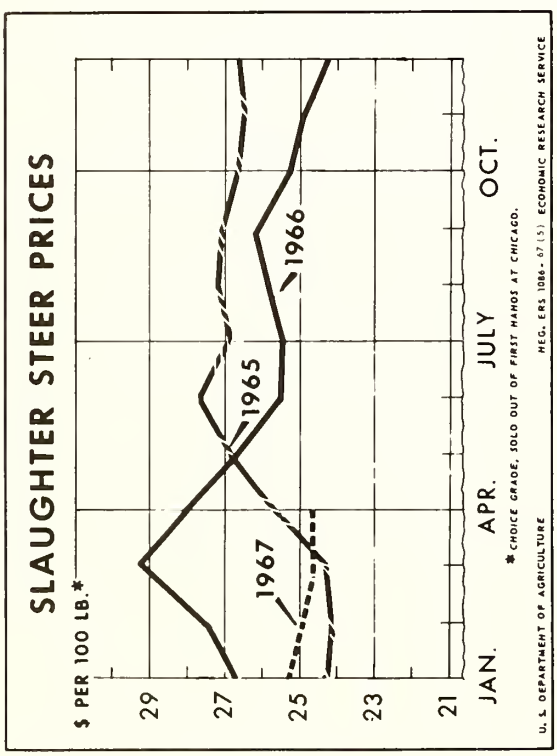


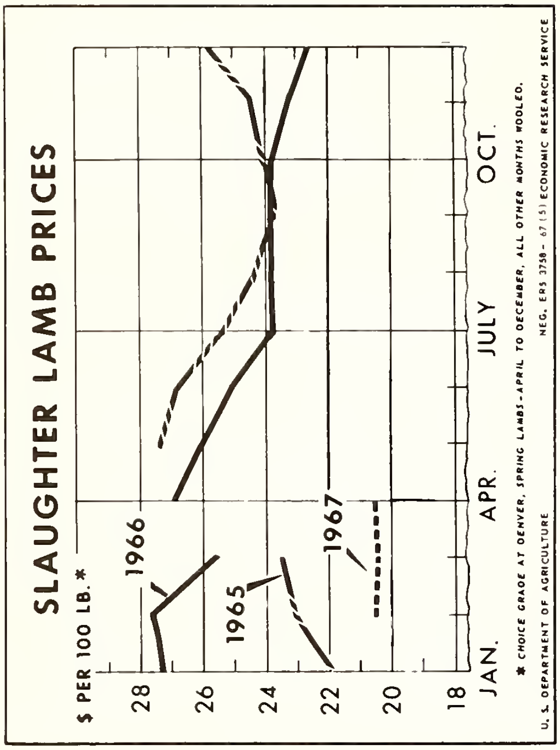


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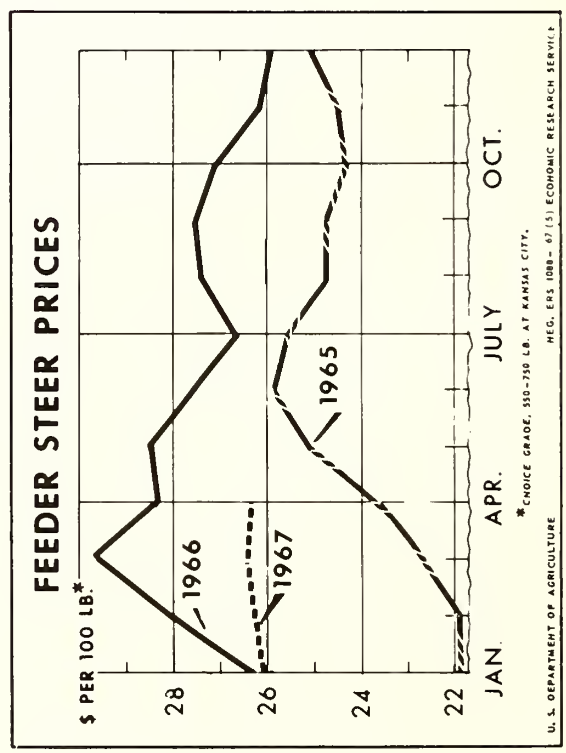
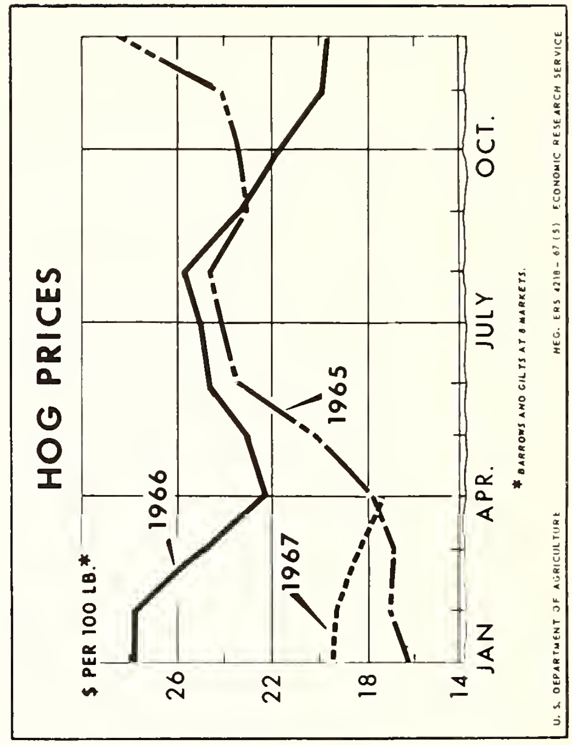


# Livestock and Meat Situation

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, May 2, 1967

## CONTENTS



## SUMMARY


Prices of fed cattle, hogs, and lambs have been running substantially lower than a year earlier since last fall, because meat supplies have been larger.

In January-March, commercial production of red meat totaled 10 percent larger than a year earlier. Commercial cattle slaughter was up only 1.4 percent, but beef production was up about 5 percent--because steers and heifers made up a larger part of total cattle slaughter and they were marketed at heavier weights. Pork production in January-March was up sharply--22 percent more than a year earlier. In addition, poultry meat production was about 11 percent larger, and meat imports (January-February) were up 13 percent.

In response to the substantial increase in supplies, prices of Choice steers at Chicago the last week in April were $24.60 per 100 pounds--around $2.50 below a year earlier; prices of barrows and gilts at 8 markets averaged about $18.02--down about $3.50; slaughter lambs at Denver were around $24.90--down about $1.50.

Lower prices of slaughter animals and higher feed costs in the second half of 1966 and so far this year are leading to some cutback from the high first quarter production levels. Marketings of fed cattle and hogs will continue larger than a year earlier during the spring but not by such a wide margin as earlier this year. By midyear, fed cattle marketings may be around year-earlier levels and the supply of slaughter hogs is expected to be only moderately larger. In addition, lamb slaughter likely will be below last year's.

There were 7 percent more cattle on feed than a year earlier on January 1 this year; but on April 1, the increase over a year earlier was only 3 percent. Hog producers indicated on March 1 that they would have 3 percent fewer sows farrow during March-May than a year earlier and 5 percent fewer in June-August. These would be the first decreases in farrowings from year-earlier levels since early 1965. If indicated reductions in farrowings materialize, slaughter supplies late this year and in early 1968 will average a little below year-earlier levels.

These changes in expected marketings of fed cattle and hogs this spring and summer would mark a sharp departure from the steady increase in marketings of fed cattle since the spring of 1965 and in hog marketings since early 1966. Accordingly, some strengthening in fed cattle and hog prices appears in prospect during the next few months. Prices of fed cattle this summer likely will average above current levels and may average around those of a year earlier. Hog prices are expected to rise too this spring and summer, but the summer peak likely will be below the peak of last summer.

## REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Livestock prices have been substantially lower than a year ago since last fall because of the sizeable increase in meat output. At the same time, feed costs have risen. This combination of higher costs and lower livestock prices the past several months has sharply reduced the returns to producers as compared to a year earlier.

In January-March, livestock producers stepped up marketings of all classes of livestock except calves. Consequently, the supply of meat moving into commercial channels, was considerably larger than a year earlier--red meat supplies were up 11 percent, with production up 10 percent, and meat imports (January-February) up 13 percent. Poultry meat production also was 11 percent larger. Production of all meats, except veal, was larger. Pork production made the sharpest gain over a year earlier--up 22 percent.

The supply situation likely will change later in 1967 with production much closer to year-earlier levels. Hog producers, according to current farrowing intentions, will reduce the supply of hogs for slaughter this fall. The December-February pig crop in 10 Corn Belt States was up only 5 percent and producers in these States on March 1 planned to have 3 percent fewer sows farrow during March-May and 5 percent fewer in June-August than a year earlier. In addition, the number of cattle on feed on April 1 was up only 3 percent as compared with 7 percent in January and cattle feeders report plans to market only 4 percent more cattle out of feedlots this spring than in these months of 1966. This would be the smallest increase in fed cattle marketings since the spring of 1965. Furthermore, it currently appears that marketings out of feedlots this summer may be about the same as they were last summer. Lamb and calf slaughter probably will be smaller than in 1966 during the remainder of the year. While imports of meat are likely to continue large during the rest of the year, they are not expected to be up nearly as much as during January-February.

Livestock prices likely will strengthen as supplies moderate. Even so, supplies will continue large and the price improvement is expected to be moderate.

### CATTLE

#### Cattle Slaughter Up Slightly During Winter

Commercial cattle slaughter during January-March totaled 8.3 million head--1.4 percent more than a year earlier. Since both live and dressed weights averaged above year-earlier levels beef production was up 5 percent from a year earlier.

In January-March, steer slaughter in federally inspected plants was 10 percent larger, heifer slaughter up 7 percent; cow slaughter, however, declined 13 percent from a year ago. The larger steer and heifer slaughter was due mainly to the 6 percent increase in fed cattle marketings during the first 3 months of 1967.

The gain over a year earlier in slaughter has continued in April much the same as

Table 1 --Number of cattle and calves on feed April 1, by regions, and percent change from previous year, 1962 to date

| Year | North Central States | | | Texas and Okla-homa | Western States | Total 1/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | East North Central | West North Central | Total | | | |
| | 1,000 head | 1,000 head | 1,000 head | 1,000 head | 1,000 head | 1,000 head |
| 1962 | 1,404 | 3,788 | 5,192 | 340 | 1,830 | 7,525 |
| 1963 | 1,532 | 4,188 | 5,720 | 442 | 2,179 | 8,478 |
| Percent change from 1962 | +9.1 | +10.6 | +10.2 | +30.0 | +19.1 | |
| 1964 | 1,540 | 4,533 | 6,073. | 442 | 2,199 | 9,006 |
| Percent change from 1963 | +0.5 | +8.2 | +6.2 | 0 | +0.9 | |
| 1965 | 1,550 | 4,535 | 6,085 | 466 | 2,138 | 8,985 |
| Percent change from 1964 | +0.6 | +.04 | +.2 | +5.4 | -2.8 | |
| 1966 | 1,718 | 5,129 | 6,847 | 662 | 2,396 | 10,226 |
| Percent change from 1965 | +10.8 | +13.1 | +12.5 | +42.1 | +12.1 | |
| 1967 | 1,679 | 5,306 | 6,985 | 803 | 2,424 | 10,496 |
| Percent change from 1966 | -2.3 | +3.4 | +2.0 | +21.3 | +1.2 | |

1/ 28 States through 1963; then 32 States.

during the winter--larger steer and heifer slaughter, but reduced cow slaughter. Thus, early spring beef production, especially fed beef, was still considerably larger than a year ago.

Gains In Fed Cattle Marketings To Narrow

On April 1 there were 10.5 million cattle and calves on feed in 32 major feeding States, almost 3 percent more than a year earlier. Corn Belt feeders had 2 percent more cattle on feed and Western feeders had 1 percent more than a year earlier. However, feeders in Oklahoma and Texas increased numbers on feed by more than 21 percent.

Fed cattle marketings are expected to continue large this spring although the increase over a year earlier likely will diminish toward midyear. Cattle feeders reported intentions as of April 1 to market 4 percent more cattle out of feedlots during April-June than in these months of 1966. It appears that cattle feeders can carry out their spring marketing plans since the combined total of steers weighing over 900 pounds and heifers weighing more than 700 pounds on April 1 was almost 7 percent larger than a year earlier. Cattle in these weight groups will supply the bulk of spring marketings. Since the largest increases from a year earlier in the number of cattle on feed were in the heaviest weight groups, marketings out of feedlots probably will taper off somewhat toward midyear.

The increase in fed cattle marketings this spring likely will be fairly uniform

throughout the country, except for some of the South Central States. Feeders in these States plan to market substantially more cattle this spring than last.

Fed beef production during the winter probably was 8 to 9 percent larger than a year earlier. By midyear, the increase in fed beef production likely will be much smaller. If cattle feeders carry out their stated intentions for spring marketings, fed cattle slaughter this spring likely will be only slightly larger than in the winter months.

Choice steers at Chicago averaged $24.60 per 100 pounds in late-April, down $2.54 from a year earlier, but about the same as last fall and winter. With little change expected in fed cattle marketings this spring, as compared to January-March, as well as a moderating of supplies during the quarter, fed cattle prices are expected to strengthen slightly by midyear. An additional price strengthening factor is the prospect of seasonally lower pork supplies and smaller production of non-fed beef, lamb and veal. However, even though prices are likely to strengthen by midyear, fed cattle prices will likely average moderately below the April-June 1966 average of $26.74.

Average slaughter weights will continue to be an important factor in determining fed beef output and prices in coming months. Choice steers at 7 markets were averaging 1,152 pounds per head in March, 17 pounds more than a year earlier. If feeders continue to feed to heavier weights, the increase in fed beef production will continue in excess of the increase in marketings. This would continue to put downward pressure on prices. However, if producers move fed cattle to slaughter as soon as they reach the desired degree of finish, this would reduce the total supply of fed beef and would be a strengthening factor in the market. Another market factor in coming months will be producer organizations' efforts to reduce beef output for a better balance between supply and demand. They recommend that breeders not expand beef cow herds now, and that feeders market fed cattle at the lowest possible range of the grade for which they are suited.

### Summer Marketings About The Same As A Year Earlier

Fed cattle marketings next summer likely will not differ greatly from a year earlier. The number of cattle on feed on April 1 that will supply a substantial share of summer marketings was about the same as a year ago. There were almost 2 percent more steers on feed weighing 700 to 900 pounds, but this increase was largely offset by a 2 percent decrease in heifers weighing 500 to 700 pounds.

In addition to the number of lighter weight cattle on feed April 1, fed cattle marketings after midyear will also reflect the number of heavier feeder cattle placed on feed this spring. Any substantial increase in placements of heavy cattle during the coming months would lead to stepped up fed beef production this summer to the point where fed cattle prices would not increase and might even weaken. However, this is not anticipated. There is a large supply of feeder cattle available for spring placement, but the number of heavy feeder cattle, especially steers, probably is smaller than a year ago. Also, the moderate price rise in prospect for fed cattle in coming months probably will not cause many producers to change their feeding programs.

Fed cattle prices this summer probably will average above current levels and may average around those of a year earlier. In July-September 1966, Choice steers at Chicago averaged $25.79.

### Continued Large Supply Of Feeder Cattle; Prices Steady

Choice 550-750 pound feeder steers at Kansas City averaged $26.42 per 100 pounds in late-April--about the same as at the beginning of the year, but $2.28 less than in early spring 1966. Feeder cattle prices typically rise seasonally in the winter and spring from fall lows. In April 1966, feeder steers were about $4 above the previous fall's prices. This April they were less than $1 above last fall's seasonal low.

Steady feeder cattle prices so far in 1967 reflect the general price weakness in fed cattle. Since last summer, fed cattle

Table 2.--Selected prices per 100 pounds of cattle, by months, 1966-67

| Month | Chicago | | | | Kansas City | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Choice steers | | Utility cows | | Good feeder steers 550-750 lb. | | Choice feeder steer calves | |
| | 1966 | 1967 | 1966 | 1967 | 1966 | 1967 | 1966 | 1967 |
| | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. |
| January | 26.87 | 25.25 | 15.83 | 16.98 | 24.01 | 23.36 | 28.19 | 29.69 |
| February | 27.79 | 24.92 | 17.72 | 17.92 | 25.40 | 23.44 | 30.96 | 29.69 |
| March | 29.22 | 24.67 | 19.51 | 18.00 | 26.57 | 23.08 | 32.45 | 30.01 |
| April | 27.98 | 1/24.68 | 19.70 | 1/17.72 | 26.26 | 1/23.20 | 31.27 | 1/30.20 |
| May | 26.75 | | 19.54 | | 26.39 | | 31.80 | |
| June | 25.49 | | 18.83 | | 25.37 | | 30.90 | |
| July | 25.41 | | 17.86 | | 23.91 | | 29.02 | |
| August | 25.85 | | 18.37 | | 24.78 | | 29.81 | |
| September | 26.11 | | 18.46 | | 24.88 | | 30.21 | |
| October | 25.50 | | 17.52 | | 23.74 | | 30.09 | |
| November | 24.94 | | 16.53 | | 23.55 | | 29.71 | |
| December | 24.50 | | 16.40 | | 23.06 | | 29.31 | |
| Average | 26.29 | | 18.02 | | 24.83 | | 30.31 | |

1/ April is a 3-week average.

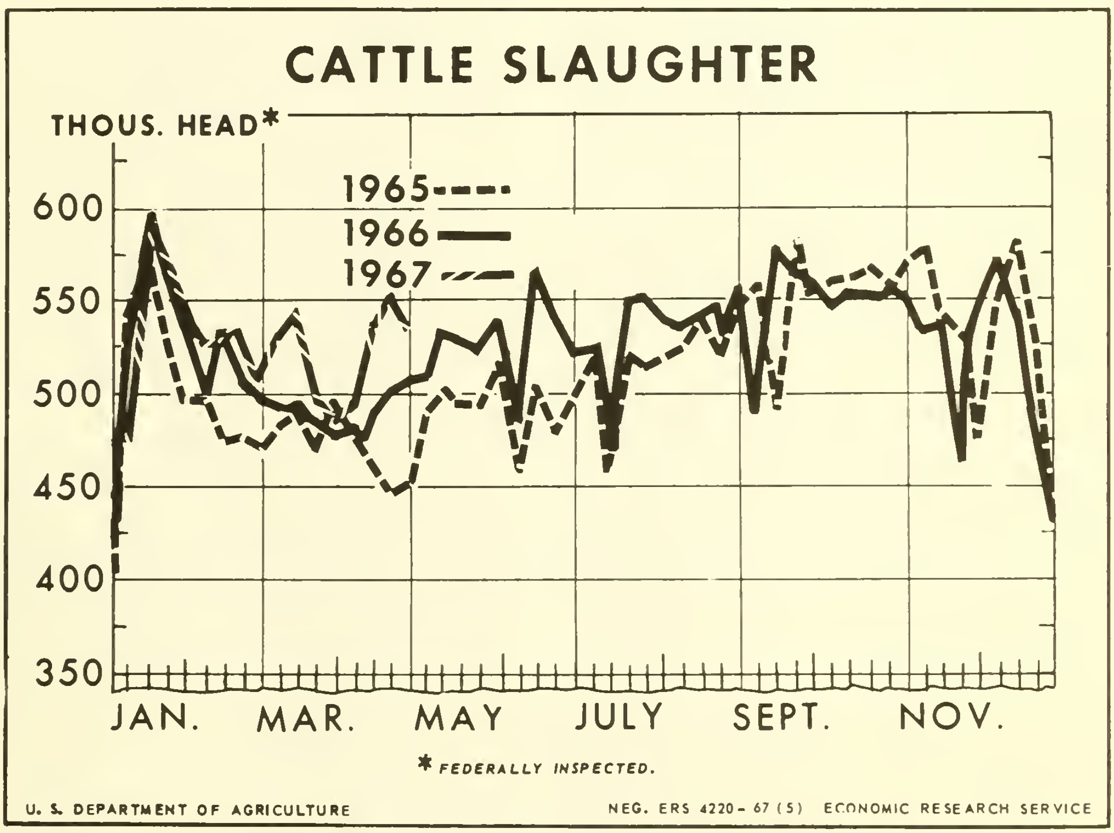


Table 3 --Average live weight of steers sold out of first hands
at 7 markets, by months, 1964 to date

| Year | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Average |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. |
| PRIME | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1964 | 1,231 | 1,218 | 1,266 | 1,270 | 1,263 | 1,273 | 1,274 | 1,268 | 1,271 | 1,265 | 1,239 | 1,232 | 1,255 |
| 1965 | 1,239 | 1,237 | 1,249 | 1,253 | 1,261 | 1,249 | 1,240 | 1,244 | 1,252 | 1,227 | 1,218 | 1,213 | 1,238 |
| Change from 1964 | +8 | +19 | -17 | -17 | -2 | -24 | -34 | -24 | -19 | -38 | -21 | -19 | -17 |
| 1966 | 1,221 | 1,224 | 1,224 | 1,243 | 1,243 | 1,240 | 1,223 | 1,238 | 1,253 | 1,237 | 1,215 | 1,188 | 1,224 |
| Change from 1965 | -18 | -13 | -25 | -10 | -18 | -9 | -17 | -6 | +1 | +10 | -3 | -25 | -14 |
| 1967 | 1,202 | 1,212 | 1,226 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Change from 1966 | -19 | -12 | +2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| CHOICE | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1964 | 1,182 | 1,187 | 1,193 | 1,184 | 1,172 | 1,167 | 1,150 | 1,129 | 1,121 | 1,125 | 1,136 | 1,148 | 1,159 |
| 1965 | 1,155 | 1,152 | 1,142 | 1,141 | 1,136 | 1,130 | 1,113 | 1,101 | 1,098 | 1,100 | 1,118 | 1,134 | 1,126 |
| Change from 1964 | -27 | -35 | -51 | -43 | -36 | -37 | -37 | -28 | -23 | -25 | -18 | -14 | -33 |
| 1966 | 1,151 | 1,143 | 1,135 | 1,139 | 1,144 | 1,148 | 1,133 | 1,126 | 1,119 | 1,128 | 1,139 | 1,144 | 1,138 |
| Change from 1965 | -4 | -9 | -7 | -2 | +8 | +18 | +20 | +25 | +21 | +28 | +21 | +10 | +12 |
| 1967 | 1,159 | 1,156 | 1,152 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Change from 1966 | +8 | +13 | +17 | | | | | | | | | | |
| GOOD | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1964 | 1,129 | 1,124 | 1,119 | 1,096 | 1,080 | 1,062 | 1,038 | 1,024 | 1,040 | 1,050 | 1,069 | 1,074 | 1,076 |
| 1965 | 1,085 | 1,062 | 1,046 | 1,044 | 1,043 | 1,034 | 1,014 | 1,016 | 1,020 | 1,037 | 1,060 | 1,084 | 1,048 |
| Change from 1964 | -44 | -62 | -73 | -52 | -37 | -28 | -24 | -8 | -20 | -13 | -9 | +10 | -28 |
| 1966 | 1,098 | 1,076 | 1,066 | 1,060 | 1,072 | 1,070 | 1,047 | 1,038 | 1,046 | 1,068 | 1,100 | 1,124 | 1,071 |
| Change from 1965 | +13 | +14 | +20 | +16 | +29 | +36 | +33 | +22 | +26 | +31 | +40 | +40 | +23 |
| 1967 | 1,116 | 1,098 | 1,091 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Change from 1966 | +18 | +22 | +25 | | | | | | | | | | |
| ALL GRADES | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1964 | 1,166 | 1,168 | 1,170 | 1,152 | 1,140 | 1,134 | 1,115 | 1,099 | 1,094 | 1,102 | 1,114 | 1,121 | 1,132 |
| 1965 | 1,127 | 1,116 | 1,103 | 1,101 | 1,105 | 1,105 | 1,092 | 1,081 | 1,084 | 1,088 | 1,106 | 1,123 | 1,103 |
| Change from 1964 | -39 | -52 | -67 | -51 | -36 | -29 | -23 | -18 | -10 | -14 | -8 | +2 | -29 |
| 1966 | 1,141 | 1,127 | 1,118 | 1,119 | 1,126 | 1,128 | 1,113 | 1,112 | 1,111 | 1,122 | 1,139 | 1,145 | 1,125 |
| Change from 1965 | +14 | +11 | +15 | +18 | +22 | +23 | +21 | +31 | +27 | +34 | +33 | +22 | +22 |
| 1967 | 1,153 | 1,146 | 1,140 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Change from 1966 | +12 | +19 | +22 | | | | | | | | | | |

moving to slaughter at most mid-west markets have sold for a lower price per 100 pounds than their cost as feeder cattle. In addition, feed costs are up. The large supply of feeder cattle and below average range conditions also worked against any strong seasonal price strength this year.

The number of young animals outside feedlots on January 1 was about the same as a year earlier. Placements during January-March were 3 percent smaller than a year earlier. Imports of live cattle, however, probably were about 40 percent less than a year earlier. Thus, by April 1 there were still about the same number of young animals outside feedlots, as on this date in 1966. The makeup, however, was different--fewer steers and more heifers. Consequently, there is an adequate supply of replacement cattle to maintain a continued high level of fed cattle marketings in the months ahead.

Poor range and pasture conditions since last fall in some sections of the country likely also helped eliminate seasonal price strength for feeder cattle so far this year. Although recent rains helped, range conditions are still quite variable.

Feeder cattle prices generally follow fed cattle prices rather closely and this relationship is expected to continue this spring and summer. Thus, any improvement in fed cattle prices in the next few months likely will lead to strength in feeder cattle prices.

### Cow Slaughter Smaller; Prices About Steady

Utility cows at Chicago averaged $18.02 per 100 pounds in 1966. This was higher than any year since 1958. Cow prices continued strong early last winter but then weakened. In late-April, they averaged $17.78--$1.64 less than a year earlier.

Since June 1966, cow slaughter has been considerably less than a year earlier and it is expected to continue below a year earlier this spring and summer. The decline in the number of dairy cows on farms appears to be slowing and dairy cow slaughter likely will be smaller than it was during the spring and summer of 1966. However, beef cow slaughter may not be much different than a year ago.

Range conditions are poor in some areas of the West. These conditions are not widespread and are not likely forcing many stockmen to cull herds at this time. However, if ranges should deteriorate further, it likely would lead to stepped up cow slaughter later in 1967.

Cow prices are expected to remain fairly steady during the next few months. Cow beef production likely will be smaller than a year earlier through next summer. However, smaller production likely will be offset, at least in part, by continued large imports of beef and increased supplies of pork trimmings.

### By-Product Prices Weaken

Hide and offal product prices declined since the spring of 1966 along with live animal prices. The value of hide and offal products from a 1000 pound steer was estimated at $1.98 per 100 pounds live weight in late-April, about 15 cents below the first week in January and about 75 cents below the value in mid-1966. Thus, between 60 and 80 cents of the decline in live cattle prices per 100 pounds since last summer can be attributed to lower by-product prices.

Heavy native steer hides are currently averaging 12.2 cents per pound at Chicago--about 1 cent less than in January. Hide prices weakened because supplies continued large in the United States as well as in many foreign countries. Hide prices probably will continue near current levels this summer because slaughter rates are expected to remain large and no sharp change in the world hide supply situation is in prospect.

Prices of many variety meats generally weakened last winter. Some, however, beef head meat and beef hearts are higher priced than at the beginning of the year. Both edible and inedible tallow on the East Coast have declined in price so far this year.

Although not much change is likely in the prices of variety meats, it is expected that the general tone of the market will be stronger during coming months.

## HOGS

Rising hog prices, particularly in late 1965 and early 1966, induced hog producers to expand production last year. The 1966 pig crop was 8 percent larger in 1966 than in 1965. Hog slaughter rose above year-earlier levels last summer, as a result of the 8 percent larger December 1965-May 1966 pig crop. Reflecting this increase, hog slaughter was 7 percent above year-earlier levels in August, and continued to gain through the balance of the year. In December, federally inspected hog slaughter was 24 percent above December 1965.

The substantial increase in production was accompanied by a sharp decline in prices. Barrow and gilt prices at 8 markets dropped from a mid-August summer high of \$26.42 per 100 pounds to \$20 in late December. This was \$8.87 below the unusually high level of the previous December. Larger beef and poultry supplies during the closing months of 1966 also contributed to the downward pressure on hog prices.

### Hog Slaughter Above 1966, Prices Below

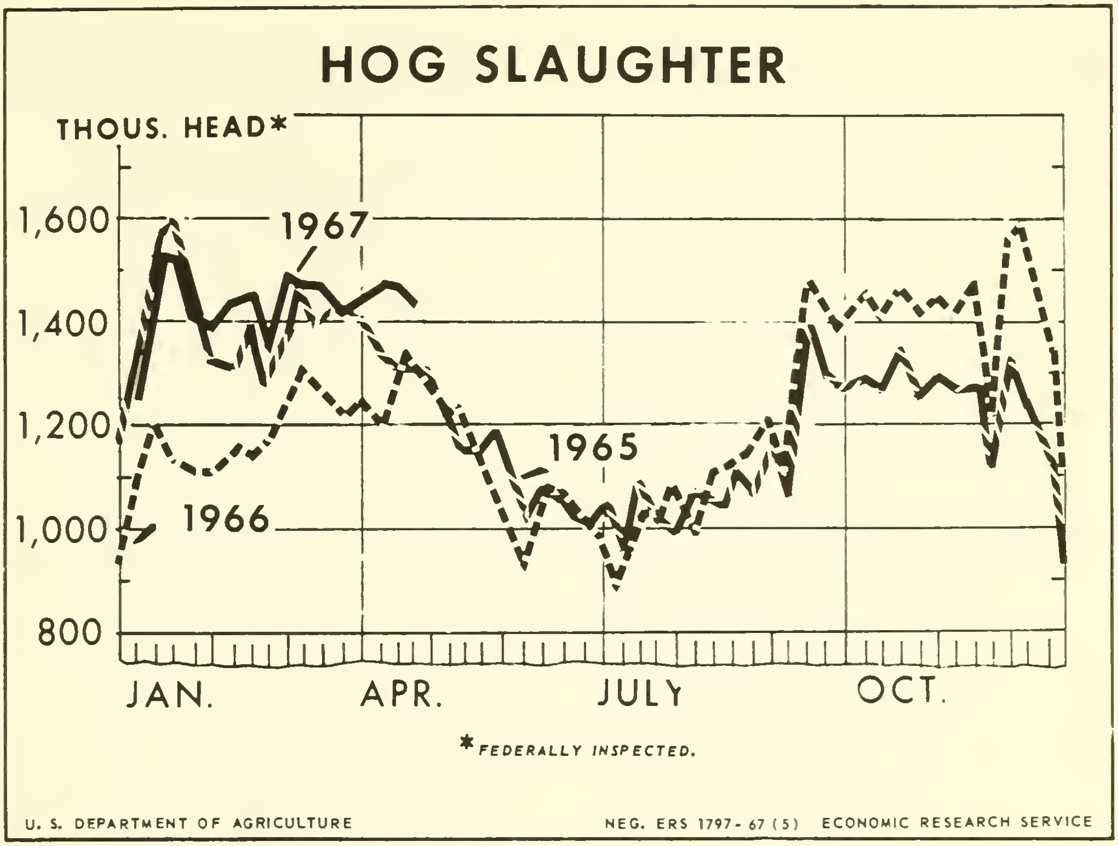
Hog marketings have continued large this year, substantially exceeding year-earlier levels. Commercial slaughter in January-March totaled 21.5 million head, 22 percent above first quarter 1966. Weekly slaughter rates in April continued well above early spring last year but below the high winter levels.

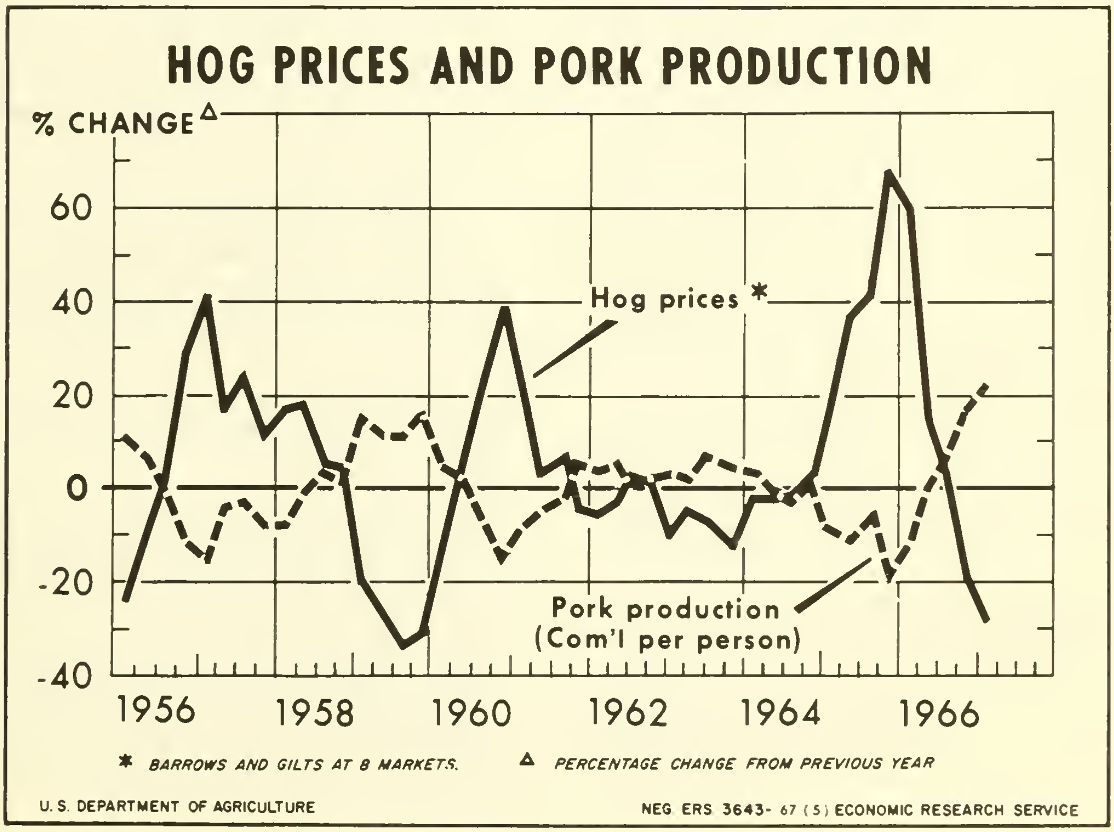
Barrow and gilt prices averaged \$19.09 at 8 markets in the first quarter of 1967--\$7.62 below the record levels of a year earlier. Prices were relatively stable during January and February, averaging near \$19.50 but declined further in March. By late-March, the 8 market average was \$18.25. Although prices during January-March were substantially below the record high levels of a year earlier, they were higher for that period than in any other year since 1958. In addition to increased pork supplies, larger supplies of other red meats and poultry also have contributed to the downward pressure on hog prices this year. Beef production in the first quarter was up about 5 percent, lamb and mutton output up 14 percent and poultry meat production was 11 percent larger.

Hog slaughter this spring and summer is expected to continue above 1966 levels, but by a smaller margin than during the winter. Considering the high level of slaughter in the first quarter this year, a large portion of the fall pig crop probably already has been marketed. On March 1, there were only 4 percent more hogs weighing under 180 pounds on farms in 10 Corn Belt States. Furthermore, producers in these States reported only a 5 percent increase in the December-February pig crop. These hogs, largely from the seasonally lower late fall and early winter pig crops, will furnish the bulk of slaughter supplies this spring and summer. Thus, spring and summer hog slaughter is expected to decline considerably from the high winter levels but likely will continue generally above year-earlier levels.

Barrows and gilts at 8 markets averaged \$18.02 in late-April--about \$3.50 below a year earlier. Seasonally smaller slaughter supplies this spring and summer are expected to result in some strengthening of hog prices into the summer months. However, the highest monthly average price this summer will likely be under the August 1966 average of \$25.75 at 8 markets.

Pork Stocks Up: Cold storage holdings of pork have been above a year earlier since last September. Stocks increased from 140 million pounds on September 1, 1966 to 336.9 million pounds on April 1, 1967--55 percent above a year earlier. Pork stocks more than doubled from September 1966 to April 1967 in contrast to a 61 percent rise during the same period last year. These


HOG SLAUGHTER
THOUS. HEAD*
1,600
1,400
1,200
1,000
800
1967
1965
1966
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*FEDERALLY INSPECTED.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 1797-67 (5) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE


HOG PRICES AND PORK PRODUCTION
% CHANGE△
60
40
20
0
-20
-40
Hog prices *
Pork production
(Com'l per person)
1956
1958
1960
1962
1964
1966
* BARROWS AND GILTS AT 8 MARKETS.
△ PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
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larger supplies in cold storage will tend to moderate price advances this spring and summer.

Fall Slaughter May Be Near Last Year's Levels

Based on supply prospects indicated by the December-February pig crop and spring and summer farrowing intentions, the increase in hog slaughter over a year earlier will continue to diminish during the late summer and early fall. By late fall and winter, hog slaughter may run below year-earlier levels.

Producers in 10 Corn Belt States stated intentions on March 1 to have 3 percent fewer sows farrow in March-May and 5 percent fewer in June-August than a year earlier. The bulk of the March-May pig crop will be marketed for slaughter by the end of the year while the June-August crop will provide the bulk of slaughter supplies during the first quarter of 1968.

If producers carry out their March 1 intentions, slaughter supplies late this year likely will drop below a year earlier and continue below next winter. If this pattern of marketing develops, the seasonal price decline from the summer peak will be smaller than in 1966 when barrows and gilts at 8 markets dropped from an average of $26.42 in mid-August to $19.76 in late-December. Thus, by late this fall or early next winter, hog prices may average near or above year-earlier levels.

However, with some price advance in hogs during the spring, the hog-corn price ratio will improve and some producers might farrow more sows than early plans would indicate. Should this occur, late 1967-early 1968 marketings would be larger than the level suggested by current indications and prices would be lower.

Producers Respond To Lower Hog-Corn Price Ratio

Although hog producers may adjust production to changes in the relationship between the hog prices and corn prices (the hog-corn price ratio) somewhat differently than several years ago, the ratio is still a reflection of relative levels of profitability in hog production.

Hog producers were apparently more responsive to the declining hog-corn price ratio in 1966 than they were to the rising ratio in 1965. The hog-corn ratio in 1966 averaged 17.9 (Chicago basis), the highest on record. However, in December it dropped to 14.2, the lowest since April 1965--and remained near 14 through the first quarter this year.

The bulk of the sows that farrowed in March-May--expected to be 3 percent fewer than a year earlier--were bred in November-January when the hog-corn ratio ranged between 15.7 in November to 14.1 in January. This rapid downward adjustment by hog producers illustrates again that a higher hog-corn ratio is necessary to maintain or increase hog production levels than was required several years ago. When producers began the current expansion phase (July 1965) by increasing the number of sows bred, the ratio was above 18. However, the expansion apparently ended when the ratio dropped below 16 (November 1966). If producers' March 1 intentions materialize, the current expansion phase will have lasted only about 16 months (November 1965-February 1967) in contrast to 2-2½ years for most expansion periods in the past decade.

The relatively rapid changes made by the industry in the current adjustment period demonstrates that hog producers recognize the desirability of keeping production in line with consumer demand. If producers continue efforts to keep supplies in balance with demand, they can largely avoid or greatly temper the boom and bust periods associated with the hog industry in the past.

The level of feed grain production and prices in 1967 will influence the level of hog production and prices in 1968. It is too early to determine the probable size of the 1967 feed grain crop. If farmers plant intended acreage and yields are average, adjusted for trend, production would be around 170 million tons, 13 million tons more than last year. Carry-over stocks would about offset this increase so that

supplies in 1967-68 would be about the same as in the current season. However, a relatively short feed grain crop in 1967 and higher feed prices this coming fall and winter, probably would result in a less favorable hog-corn ratio than a year earlier. This would likely lead to a further reduction in the number of sows farrowing late in 1967 and early 1968. On the other hand, a large feed grain crop and lower feed prices would result in a more favorable hog-corn ratio, and producers likely would tend to hold production near year-earlier levels late this year and in 1968.

## SHEEP AND LAMBS

### Inventory Down; Lamb Slaughter Up Sharply

Sheep and lamb slaughter in 1966 was smaller than a year earlier, but liquidation of sheep and lamb inventory continued. On January 1, 1967 there were 23.7 million head of sheep and lambs on farms--4 percent less than a year earlier and another new low.

It currently appears that the liquidation of sheep and lambs will continue this year. In order for the inventory to stabilize, sheep and lamb slaughter in 1967 would have to be down more than 10 percent from 1966 levels. With the sharp increase in slaughter during the first 3 months of this year--up over 14 percent--slaughter during the rest of the year would have to be down almost 18 percent in order to stabilize the inventory this year. Such a cutback currently appears unlikely. On a weekly basis, federally inspected slaughter during April-December would have to average around 185-190 thousand head as compared to 226 thousand head during the same period in 1966.

High slaughter rates during January-March this year resulted in sharply lower lamb prices. Fed lamb prices at most markets averaged around $21.50--20 percent below a year earlier. In April, slaughter rates dropped below year-earlier levels and spring lamb prices advanced sharply late in the month.

Average weights of slaughter lambs reached near record levels last winter. Sheep and lambs slaughtered commercially averaged 105 pounds during January-March compared with 106 pounds a year earlier. Average slaughter weights are expected to decline seasonally as 1966 crop fed lambs are cleaned up and spring slaughter lambs make up the bulk of the slaughter supply. Heavy slaughter weights, as well as sharply increased slaughter, adversely affected prices received by feeders and ranchers for lambs this winter.

### Early Lamb Crop Down, Slaughter To Fall Below A Year Earlier

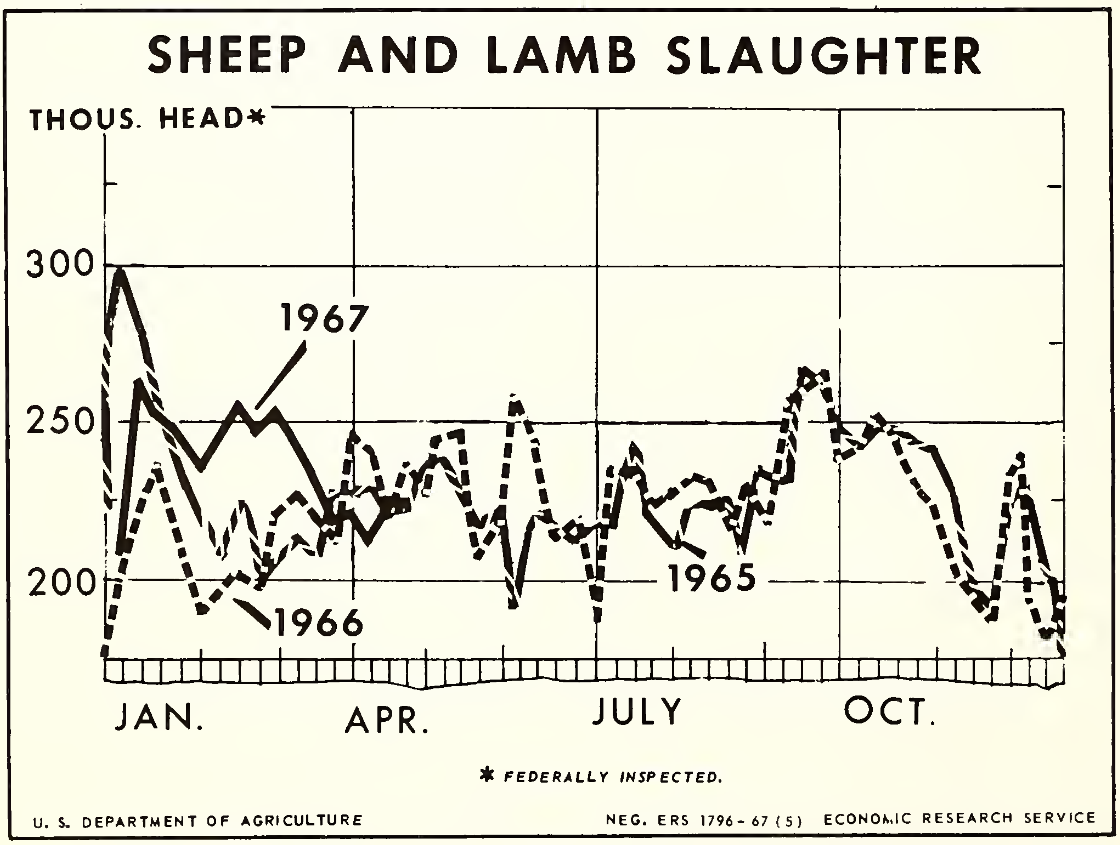
On January 1, in the 10 major early lamb producing States there were 2 percent fewer breeding ewes than a year earlier. There were fewer breeding ewes in all States except Texas and California. Fewer early lambs were dropped in all 10 States except California. Even though there was an increase in breeding ewes in Texas, the lamb crop was down because of poor weather, which resulted in less favorable lambing conditions. This is in contrast to excellent lambing conditions last year.

During the last week in March, federally inspected sheep and lamb slaughter dropped 11 percent below a year earlier. This was the first week in 1967 that sheep and lamb slaughter was under a year earlier. Slaughter this spring will likely continue below that of a year earlier. Late movement of fed lambs or early movement of spring lambs sometimes causes overlapping of fed and spring lamb marketings which adversely affect prices of both. Recent quotes of Prime and Choice grade spring lambs have been sharply higher--averaging $26 per 100 pounds at San Angelo the last week in April compared to $24.50 the previous week. Reduced slaughter rates in the weeks to come will continue to lend strength to the spring

Table 4.--Selected prices per 100 pounds of livestock, by months, 1966-67

| Month | Barrows and gilts at 8 markets 1/ | | Sows at 8 markets 1/ | | Choice lambs at Denver | | Choice feeder lambs at S. St. Paul | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1966 | 1967 | 1966 | 1967 | 1966 | 1967 | 1966 | 1967 |
| | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. | Dol. |
| January | 27.93 | 19.46 | 23.84 | 15.52 | 27.72 | 2/ | 27.24 | 22.90 |
| February | 27.80 | 19.38 | 25.09 | 16.17 | 27.62 | 20.50 | 28.27 | 21.02 |
| March | 24.41 | 18.43 | 21.80 | 16.09 | 25.42 | 20.45 | 26.27 | 20.70 |
| April | 22.26 | 3/17.49 | 18.87 | 3/15.30 | 26.86 | 3/20.50 | 24.39 | 3/20.50 |
| May | 23.16 | | 18.35 | | 26.00 | | 23.00 | |
| June | 24.72 | | 19.16 | | 25.11 | | 21.20 | |
| July | 25.09 | | 19.40 | | 23.75 | | 21.58 | |
| August | 25.75 | | 21.45 | | 23.85 | | 21.81 | |
| September | 23.16 | | 20.91 | | 23.89 | | 22.54 | |
| October | 21.57 | | 19.40 | | 23.81 | | 22.35 | |
| November | 19.87 | | 16.86 | | 23.02 | | 21.58 | |
| December | 19.67 | | 15.08 | | 22.60 | | 22.75 | |
| Average | 23.49 | | 19.77 | | 24.97 | | 23.58 | |

1/ Average for all weights at Midwest markets. 2/ No price quoted. 3/ April is a 3-week average.



lamb market. Continued large fed beef production will tend to exert some downward pressure on lamb prices.

Returns From Lamb Feeding Lower

Lamb feeding operations in the Corn Belt were less profitable last winter than in other recent years. Table 5 illustrates a lamb feeding program covering each of the past 4 seasons. Although the data shown in the table may not reflect actual experience of individual feeders, the table illustrates the relative levels of profitability in feeding lambs from year to year.

The sharp decline in profitability the past season compared to other recent seasons was primarily the result of the negative price margin between feeder lambs and slaughter lambs. The table shows that feeder lamb prices averaged only about 50 cents below the previous year's level during September-December 1966 but slaughter lamb prices were down nearly $5.00 in December-March. Higher feed costs was also an important factor.

1966 Wool Production Down; Prices Up

Shorn wool production in 1966 totaled 194 million pounds (grease basis)--4 percent below a year earlier; pulled wool output was 24 million pounds--up 3 percent. Shorn wool production this year will likely be further reduced with the decline in sheep numbers.

The average farm price for shorn wool in 1966 was 52.1 cents per pound. This was about 5 cents above 1965's average. The rise in price exceeded the fall in production, increasing total value of shorn wool production 6 percent to $100.7 million. With large U. S. and World supplies of wool and reduced demand, 1967 shorn wool prices probably will average lower than last year.

Mohair production in the 7 leading States (Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Missouri, Oregon, California, and Utah) totaled 29.6 million pounds in 1966--9 percent less than the record high in 1965. The average price per pound was 53.7 cents in 1966, compared with 65.5 cents the previous year. The combination of smaller output and lower prices resulted in a decline in total value of the 1966 mohair clip to $15.9 million, 25 percent below a year earlier. Large stocks of mohair carried over from 1966 will continue to have a depressing effect on 1967 mohair prices.

## RED MEAT PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION AND PRICES

Red meat production in 1967 is expected to total moderately above the 32,618 million pounds produced in 1966.

The expected increase in 1967 over 1966 primarily reflects larger supplies of pork and beef. However, the number of cattle on feed and farrowing intentions suggest that most of the increase is likely in the first half of the year; by fall, total meat supplies may average about the same as a year earlier.

The increase in domestic meat production as well as an increase in imports will likely result in a moderate increase in per capita red meat consumption. Although consumption is likely to average moderately above the 170.5 pounds consumed per capita in 1966, it is not likely to exceed the record of 174.5 pounds consumed in 1964.

Red meat consumption was at a record rate during the first quarter this year when output of all classes, except veal, was above year-earlier levels. Per capita consumption totaled around 44.6 pounds--up nearly 4 pounds from a year earlier.

Increased meat supplies resulted in lower retail prices. The BLS index of retail meat prices during January-March averaged 112.6 (1957-59=100)--down 2 percent from the fourth quarter of 1966 and 5 percent below a year earlier.

Table 5.--Average price and value of important items affecting returns from lamb feeding, 1963-66

| Item | Feeding year beginning December | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 |
| | Dollars | Dollars | Dollars | Dollars |
| Prices | | | | |
| Choice slaughter lambs, Chicago, December-March, per 100 pounds | 20.73 | 23.39 | 27.27 | 22.47 |
| Choice feeder lambs, Denver, September-December, per 100 pounds | 17.41 | 20.28 | 23.86 | 23.28 |
| Corn, North Central States October-March, per bushel | 1.05 | 1.11 | 1.07 | 1.26 |
| Alfalfa hay, received by farmers, North Central States, October-March, per ton | 21.68 | 23.05 | 22.57 | 22.56 |
| Receipts, per head | | | | |
| Sales of Choice lambs, 100 pounds | 20.73 | 23.39 | 27.27 | 22.47 |
| Wool payment rate on unshorn lambs | .54 | .35 | .60 | .52 |
| Total | 21.27 | 23.74 | 27.87 | 22.99 |
| Cost, per head | | | | |
| Feeder lamb, 75 pounds | 13.06 | 15.21 | 17.89 | 17.46 |
| Corn, 2½ bushels | 2.62 | 2.78 | 2.68 | 3.15 |
| Alfalfa hay, 150 pounds | 1.63 | 1.73 | 1.69 | 1.69 |
| Total for items shown 1/ | 17.31 | 19.72 | 22.25 | 22.30 |
| Margin, value over costs shown 1/ | 3.96 | 4.02 | 5.62 | .69 |

1/ Does not include purchasing or marketing expenses, labor cost, death losses, overhead costs, or costs of other feed ingredients, or credits for manure. The prices shown are averages for the lamb feeding season for the North Central region, and do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders.

Table 6 .--Production, prices and income from wool, United States, 1958-66

| Year | Shorn wool: Number sheep shorn 1/ | Shorn wool: Weight per fleece | Shorn wool: Production | Shorn wool: Price per pound 2/ | Shorn wool: Value | Pulled wool production |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 head | Pounds | 1,000 pounds | Cents | 1,000 dollars | 1,000 pounds |
| 1958 | 29,403 | 8.29 | 243,713 | 36.4 | 88,632 | 30,400 |
| 1959 | 30,763 | 8.45 | 259,939 | 43.2 | 112,328 | 34,500 |
| 1960 | 31,081 | 8.54 | 265,277 | 42.0 | 111,412 | 33,600 |
| 1961 | 30,454 | 8.51 | 259,161 | 43.0 | 111,445 | 34,500 |
| 1962 | 29,193 | 8.45 | 246,636 | 47.7 | 117,579 | 29,900 |
| 1963 | 27,264 | 8.53 | 232,446 | 48.4 | 112,426 | 28,800 |
| 1964 | 25,455 | 8.34 | 212,333 | 53.2 | 112,877 | 25,100 |
| 1965 | 23,756 | 8.48 | 201,463 | 47.1 | 94,999 | 23,300 |
| 1966 3/ | 22,875 | 8.49 | 194,149 | 52.1 | 100,741 | 24,100 |

1/ Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards. 2/ For the years 1958 through 1962, the marketing year was April through March. For 1963, the marketing year was April through December. Beginning in 1964 the marketing year is January through December. 3/ Preliminary.

Table 7 .--Mohair: Production and value for 7 leading States, 1958-66 1/

| Year | Number goats clipped 2/ | Average clip per goat | Production of mohair | Price per pound 3/ | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 head | Pounds | 1,000 pounds | Cents | 1,000 dollars |
| 1958 | 3,417 | 6.1 | 20,825 | 72.2 | 15,026 |
| 1959 | 3,755 | 6.4 | 24,151 | 96.5 | 23,301 |
| 1960 | 3,888 | 6.3 | 24,467 | 89.7 | 21,937 |
| 1961 | 4,021 | 6.6 | 26,411 | 85.6 | 22,615 |
| 1962 | 4,236 | 6.4 | 27,215 | 71.4 | 19,430 |
| 1963 | 4,363 | 6.6 | 29,007 | 88.1 | 25,562 |
| 1964 | 4,568 | 6.5 | 29,736 | 94.3 | 28,053 |
| 1965 | 4,803 | 6.7 | 32,420 | 65.5 | 21,251 |
| 1966 4/ | 4,658 | 6.3 | 29,564 | 53.7 | 15,890 |

1/ States are Missouri, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Oregon and California.
2/ In States where goats are clipped twice a year the number clipped is the sum of goats and kids clipped in the spring and kids clipped in the fall.
3/ For the years 1958 through 1962, the marketing year was April through March. For 1963, the marketing year was April through December. Beginning in 1964 marketing year is January through December.
4/ Preliminary.

Per capita beef consumption during January-March totaled 26.4 pounds--highest on record for the period. Increased fed beef supplies more than offset reduced output of lower grade beef. However, demand for beef has continued strong. In spite of record consumption levels during the quarter, the composite retail price of Choice beef averaged 83.4 cents per pound--down only 1 cent from a year earlier. Except for 1966 and 1963, this was the highest average January-March price in the past 15 years.

Per capita pork consumption averaged about 16 pounds in the first quarter this year. This was only slightly below the previous quarter, and was almost 19 percent above the unusually low level in January-March 1966. Retail pork prices at 67.0 cents per pound, averaged 3 cents per pound below the fourth quarter of 1966 and 11 cents below a year earlier. However, except for 1966, the composite price of retail pork cuts averaged above any other January-March period since 1958.

Red meat consumption is expected to decline from winter levels this spring and summer, largely due to seasonally reduced pork output; but consumption likely will continue above year-earlier levels through the summer. If cattle feeding and the late spring pig crop turn out as now expected, supplies will moderate. Thus, by the closing months of 1967, per capita supplies may average a little below the 44.3 pounds consumed during October-December 1966.

A cutback in available supplies relative to the first quarter production rate would tend to strengthen retail meat prices later this year.

## USDA MEAT PURCHASES

The USDA is conducting 2 meat purchase programs to provide high protein foods to needy families and school children and to help stabilize prices of livestock that are in unusually large supply.

USDA announced plans in early March to purchase choice grade or better frozen boneless roasts and ground beef for distribution to schools next fall. Beginning with the initial purchase under this program on March 17, almost 23 million pounds of product have been contracted at an f.o.b. cost of over $14 million. While offers under the program have come from vendors in many areas of the country, the bulk of the products purchased is from mid-West and West Coast packers.

Purchases of canned chopped meat (prepared principally from pork) for distribution primarily to needy families have continued in 1967. Through April, USDA had contracted for 56 million pounds at an approximate f.o.b. cost of $25 million.

Funds for these programs are provided under Section 32, Public Law 320-74.

Table 8.--Production and consumption per person of red meat, United States, 1955-66 1/

Production 2/

| Year | Beef | Veal | Lamb and mutton | Pork | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. |
| 1955 | 13,569 | 1,578 | 758 | 10,990 | 26,895 |
| 1956 | 14,462 | 1,632 | 741 | 11,200 | 28,035 |
| 1957 | 14,202 | 1,526 | 707 | 10,424 | 26,859 |
| 1958 | 13,330 | 1,186 | 688 | 10,454 | 25,658 |
| 1959 | 13,580 | 1,008 | 738 | 11,993 | 27,319 |
| 1960 | 14,728 | 1,109 | 768 | 11,598 | 28,203 |
| 1961 | 15,300 | 1,044 | 832 | 11,399 | 28,575 |
| 1962 | 15,298 | 1,015 | 808 | 11,819 | 28,940 |
| 1963 | 16,428 | 929 | 770 | 12,419 | 30,546 |
| 1964 | 18,448 | 1,011 | 715 | 12,531 | 32,705 |
| 1965 | 18,724 | 1,020 | 651 | 11,140 | 31,535 |
| 1966 | 19,721 | 910 | 650 | 11,337 | 32,618 |
| | Consumption per person | | | | |
| | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. | Lb. |
| 1955 | 82.0 | 9.4 | 4.6 | 66.8 | 162.8 |
| 1956 | 85.4 | 9.5 | 4.5 | 67.3 | 166.7 |
| 1957 | 84.6 | 8.8 | 4.2 | 61.1 | 158.7 |
| 1958 | 80.5 | 6.7 | 4.2 | 60.2 | 151.6 |
| 1959 | 81.4 | 5.7 | 4.8 | 67.6 | 159.5 |
| 1960 | 85.2 | 6.2 | 4.8 | 65.2 | 161.4 |
| 1961 | 88.0 | 5.7 | 5.1 | 62.2 | 161.0 |
| 1962 | 89.1 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 63.7 | 163.5 |
| 1963 | 94.6 | 4.9 | 4.9 | 65.6 | 170.0 |
| 1964 | 99.7 | 5.2 | 4.2 | 65.4 | 174.5 |
| 1965 | 99.3 | 5.2 | 3.7 | 58.5 | 166.7 |
| 1966 | 104.0 | 4.5 | 4.0 | 58.0 | 170.5 |

1/ 50 States, beginning in 1964.
2/ Production of red meats is carcass weight equivalent of production from total United States slaughter.

## U. S. FOREIGN TRADE IN LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Meat prices usually are higher in the United States than in most large meat importing countries. These price differences increased in 1966--particularly for beef--and drew a larger volume of imports into the United States than in 1965. The value of U. S. imports of meat animals, meat, and meat products totaled $1,010.4 million in 1966, compared with $828.5 million the year before. As in the past, beef and veal ranked first among these products in value of imports in 1966, followed by wool and mohair, and pork.

The value of 1966 U. S. exports of meat animals, meat, and meat products was $482.2 million--a little more than the $470.4 million in 1965. This moderate increase in the export total was due mainly to an increase in exports of hides and skins, valued at $154.7 million--up from $108.3 million in 1965. The export value of tallow, greases and lard was largest, followed by hides and skins, and variety meats. Exports of meat are relatively small because U. S. prices usually are higher than prices in other countries. The value of U. S. meat exports in 1966 was $47.6 million, up slightly from $46.9 million in 1965. The value of meat exports was less than the export value of any one of the major classes of by-products of the meat packing industry, (Table 9 ).

### Meat Imports Up In 1966

Boneless beef imports amounted to 986.7 million pounds (carcass weight equivalent) in 1966. This product, which is by far the largest meat import item, accounted for 57 percent of all red meat imports during the year. The increase in boneless beef imports from 734.3 million pounds in 1965 was responsible for a large part of the increase in total meat imports. Boneless beef is similar to domestic cow beef and is used largely in hamburger, frankfurters, and other processed meat products.

Mutton is used almost entirely in processed meat products. Mutton imports increased in 1966 to 120.7 million pounds (carcass weight) from 60 million pounds in 1965, reflecting the relatively strong market for processing meats. Lamb imports increased to 14.9 million pounds, compared with 12.5 million pounds in 1965.

Pork imports totaled 381.3 million pounds (carcass weight) in 1966, compared with 333 million pounds in 1965. Imports of fresh or frozen pork were smaller, but imports of hams and shoulders and other pork were larger.

In 1966, imports of beef and veal were equal to 5.8 percent of U. S. production, while pork imports were equal to 3.4 percent of domestic production. Lamb and mutton imports combined were equal to 20.9 percent of U. S. production. Lamb imports are relatively small, however, amounting to about 2.4 percent of U. S. production in 1966. Mutton imports typically are several times as large as lamb imports--8 times as large in 1966--and considerably larger than the small U. S. mutton production. (Sheep usually account for only about 5 percent of total sheep and lamb slaughter under Federal inspection, and lambs and yearlings for around 95 percent.)

The carcass weight equivalent of meat imports in 1966 was equal to 5.3 percent of total U. S. meat production; U. S. meat exports were 0.3 percent of U. S. meat production during the year.

### Other Principal Imports In 1966 About the Same As In 1965

Imports of cattle subject to import duties (not for breeding) totaled 1.1 million head in 1966--about 29,000 head fewer than in 1965. These were mostly feeder cattle from Canada and Mexico. There were only small numbers of hogs, sheep and lambs imported.

Imports of wool in 1966 were almost the same as in 1965: 162.5 million pounds of dutiable (apparel class) wool, and 114.6 million pounds of duty-free (carpet class) wool.

Table 9 .--Meat animals, meat and meat products: Value of United States imports and exports, 1964-66

| Commodity | Imports for consumption | | | Exports | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 1/ | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 1/ |
| | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. |
| Live animals: | | | | | | |
| Cattle and calves | 48.2 | 104.5 | 103.9 | 17.6 | 17.1 | 14.3 |
| Hogs | .1 | .3 | .2 | 1.0 | .8 | .7 |
| Sheep and lambs | .2 | .4 | .7 | .6 | .7 | .9 |
| Meat: | | | | | | |
| Beef and veal | 260.9 | 241.8 | 353.9 | 23.3 | 22.6 | 17.8 |
| Pork | 127.0 | 159.1 | 201.6 | 38.8 | 16.4 | 20.6 |
| Lamb, mutton and goat | 10.3 | 10.5 | 21.4 | .7 | .7 | 1.0 |
| Processed meats 2/ | 2.2 | 2.6 | 3.1 | 2.9 | 7.2 | 8.2 |
| Tallow, greases, and lard | .7 | .8 | .7 | 249.7 | 225.6 | 187.5 |
| Variety meats | .7 | .8 | 1.1 | 47.9 | 56.0 | 58.5 |
| Casings | 17.4 | 20.7 | 21.6 | 9.3 | 8.7 | 9.4 |
| Hides and skins | 71.4 | 72.7 | 83.2 | 92.7 | 108.3 | 154.7 |
| Wool and mohair | 192.0 | 214.3 | 219.0 | 3.2 | 6.3 | 8.6 |
| Total | 731.1 | 828.5 | 1,010.4 | 487.7 | 470.4 | 482.2 |

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Imports are other sausage. Exports for 1964 include sausage, other canned meats, and baby food; now include sausage, canned meats, and canned specialties.

Table 10.--U. S. imports of livestock products, 1961-66

| Item | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 2/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. |
| Meat (carcass weight equivalent) 1/ | | | | | | |
| Beef | | | | | | |
| Boneless, fresh or frozen | 764.9 | 1,182.9 | 1,362.8 | 919.2 | 734.3 | 986.7 |
| Fresh or frozen | 25.1 | 18.8 | 19.9 | 17.2 | 29.3 | 20.7 |
| Total fresh or frozen | 790.0 | 1,201.7 | 1,382.7 | 936.4 | 763.6 | 1,007.4 |
| Canned | 188.6 | 165.7 | 221.2 | 110.2 | 126.8 | 126.6 |
| Pickled or cured | 1.1 | .6 | .7 | .4 | .4 | .6 |
| Other | 41.0 | 46.3 | 46.5 | 20.7 | 32.2 | 47.6 |
| Total | 1,020.7 | 1,414.3 | 1,651.1 | 1,067.7 | 923.0 | 1,182.2 |
| Veal | | | | | | |
| Fresh or frozen | 16.5 | 25.5 | 26.4 | 17.5 | 18.8 | 22.0 |
| Pork | | | | | | |
| Fresh or frozen | 36.6 | 40.5 | 37.0 | 39.2 | 47.9 | 42.0 |
| Hams and shoulders, not cooked | 5.9 | 6.3 | 7.4 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.8 |
| Hams and shoulders, canned | 135.6 | 154.9 | 165.2 | 189.7 | 236.7 | 267.6 |
| Other | 9.1 | 14.1 | 15.4 | 36.8 | 46.5 | 69.9 |
| Total | 187.2 | 215.8 | 225.0 | 267.4 | 333.0 | 381.3 |
| Lamb | 10.9 | 13.2 | 18.9 | 10.4 | 12.5 | 14.9 |
| Mutton | 89.8 | 130.0 | 125.8 | 68.6 | 60.0 | 121.1 |
| Total red meat | 1,325.1 | 1,798.8 | 2,047.2 | 1,431.6 | 1,347.3 | 1,721.5 |
| Variety Meats (product weight) | 2.0 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 1.2 | 2.2 | 3.3 |
| Wool (clean basis) | | | | | | |
| Dutiable | 90.3 | 125.8 | 109.2 | 98.4 | 162.7 | 162.5 |
| Duty-free | 157.3 | 143.5 | 168.0 | 113.9 | 108.9 | 114.6 |
| Total wool | 247.6 | 269.3 | 277.2 | 212.3 | 271.6 | 277.2 |
| | 1,000 pieces | 1,000 pieces | 1,000 pieces | 1,000 pieces | 1,000 pieces | 1,000 pieces |
| Hides and Skins | | | | | | |
| Cattle | 294 | 413 | 424 | 315 | 302 | 221 |
| Calf | 764 | 669 | 875 | 926 | 458 | 242 |
| Kip | 661 | 778 | 1,037 | 1,084 | 607 | 438 |
| Sheep and lamb | 27,903 | 27,482 | 26,310 | 29,621 | 29,821 | 27,893 |
| | No. | No. | No. | No. | No. | No. |
| Cattle 3/ | 1,022,799 | 1,232,256 | 833,716 | 528,872 | 1,110,631 | 1,081,474 |
| Hogs 4/ | 3,151 | 3,277 | 4,323 | 5,094 | 14,453 | 22,698 |
| Sheep and Lambs 3/ | 979 | 20,845 | 3,091 | 12,680 | 19,073 | 8,310 |

1/ Beginning 1964 carcass weight computed using revised conversion factors. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Dutiable; not for breeding. 4/ Imports reported in pounds; pounds converted to 200-pound hog equivalent.

Table 11.--U.S. exports of livestock products, 1961-66

| Commodity | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 2/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. |
| Meat (carcass weight equivalent) 1/ | | | | | | |
| Beef | | | | | | |
| Fresh or frozen | 9.6 | 8.9 | 7.9 | 31.8 | 32.4 | 17.5 |
| Canned | 1.7 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 3.0 |
| Pickled or cured | 20.8 | 17.8 | 19.4 | 22.8 | 11.8 | 12.8 |
| Other | 2.6 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 3.8 | 5.5 | 4.9 |
| Total | 34.7 | 30.9 | 31.6 | 61.0 | 52.1 | 38.2 |
| Veal | | | | | | |
| Fresh or frozen | 1.1 | 1.0 | .9 | 3.5 | 1.3 | .5 |
| Total (includes canned) | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 3.8 | 1.8 | .9 |
| Pork | | | | | | |
| Fresh or frozen | 38.2 | 35.4 | 105.7 | 96.2 | 17.1 | 17.1 |
| Hams and shoulders, not cooked | 7.6 | 6.1 | 7.4 | 10.1 | 10.5 | 13.6 |
| Hams and shoulders, canned | .8 | .5 | 1.1 | 1.9 | 3.3 | 3.6 |
| Other canned | 1.7 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 2.2 | 3.3 | 2.8 |
| Other | 24.0 | 23.6 | 25.8 | 27.9 | 21.1 | 21.3 |
| Total | 72.3 | 66.9 | 141.7 | 138.3 | 55.3 | 58.4 |
| Lamb and mutton | 2.0 | 2.6 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.3 |
| Total red meat | 110.2 | 101.5 | 175.8 | 205.0 | 111.2 | 99.8 |
| Variety Meats (product weight) | 123.5 | 124.5 | 157.9 | 229.4 | 220.8 | 214.2 |
| Animal Fats | | | | | | |
| Lard | 416.6 | 422.1 | 537.7 | 682.0 | 250.9 | 157.6 |
| Inedible tallow and greases 3/ | 1,804.4 | 1,595.2 | 1,871.5 | 2,399.0 | 2,111.0 | 1,972.0 |
| Edible tallow and greases 4/ | 12.2 | 12.4 | 10.5 | 12.8 | 17.0 | 16.4 |
| Mohair | | | | | | |
| (Clean content) | 13.5 | 12.5 | 14.2 | 2.7 | 7.7 | 10.7 |
| | 1,000 pieces | 1,000 pieces | 1,000 pieces | 1,000 pieces | 1,000 pieces | 1,000 pieces |
| Hides and Skins | | | | | | |
| Cattle | 7,646 | 7,119 | 7,971 | 11,502 | 13,309 | 14,307 |
| Calf | 1,992 | 1,712 | 1,604 | 2,111 | 1,985 | 2,066 |
| Kip | 520 | 343 | 253 | 280 | 474 | 516 |
| Sheep and lamb | 2,416 | 2,179 | 2,881 | 3,065 | 2,876 | 2,422 |
| | No. | No. | No. | No. | No. | No. |
| Cattle for Breeding | 24,012 | 18,039 | 23,155 | 61,631 | 54,171 | 35,317 |
| Hogs | 8,215 | 3,330 | 3,899 | 16,567 | 12,180 | 9,649 |
| Sheep and Lambs 5/ | 27,848 | 37,336 | 31,493 | 22,809 | 25,315 | 59,054 |

1/ Beginning 1964 carcass weight computed using revised conversion factors.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Includes inedible animal oils, greases, fats, and tallow.
4/ Includes oleo oil and oleo stearin, oleo stock, and edible tallow.
5/ Sheep only beginning September 1963.

Table 12 .--U. S. imports, exports, and net imports of beef and veal, pork, lamb and mutton, and total meat in relation to domestic production 1961-66 1/

| Year | Production | Imports | Exports | Net imports | Percentage of U. S. production: Imports | Exports | Net imports |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. |
| | Beef and veal | | | | | | |
| 1961 | 16,344 | 1,037.2 | 35.9 | 1,001.3 | 6.3 | .2 | 6.1 |
| 1962 | 16,313 | 1,439.8 | 32.0 | 1,407.8 | 8.8 | .2 | 8.6 |
| 1963 | 17,357 | 1,677.5 | 32.6 | 1,644.9 | 9.7 | .2 | 9.5 |
| 1964 | 19,442 | 1,085.2 | 64.8 | 1,020.4 | 5.6 | .3 | 5.2 |
| 1965 | 19,719 | 941.8 | 53.9 | 887.9 | 4.8 | .3 | 4.5 |
| 1966 2/ | 20,604 | 1,204.1 | 39.2 | 1,164.9 | 5.8 | .2 | 5.7 |
| | Pork | | | | | | |
| 1961 | 11,399 | 187.2 | 72.3 | 114.9 | 1.6 | .6 | 1.0 |
| 1962 | 11,819 | 215.8 | 66.9 | 149.0 | 1.8 | .6 | 1.3 |
| 1963 | 12,419 | 225.0 | 141.7 | 83.3 | 1.8 | 1.1 | .7 |
| 1964 | 12,503 | 267.4 | 138.3 | 129.1 | 2.1 | 1.1 | 1.0 |
| 1965 | 11,132 | 333.0 | 55.3 | 277.7 | 3.0 | .5 | 2.5 |
| 1966 2/ | 11,328 | 381.3 | 58.4 | 322.9 | 3.4 | .5 | 2.8 |
| | Lamb and mutton | | | | | | |
| 1961 | 832 | 100.7 | 2.0 | 98.8 | 12.1 | .2 | 11.9 |
| 1962 | 808 | 143.2 | 2.6 | 140.6 | 17.7 | .3 | 17.4 |
| 1963 | 770 | 144.7 | 1.5 | 143.2 | 18.8 | .2 | 18.6 |
| 1964 | 715 | 79.0 | 1.9 | 77.1 | 11.0 | .3 | 10.8 |
| 1965 | 615 | 72.6 | 2.0 | 70.6 | 11.8 | .3 | 11.5 |
| 1966 2/ | 650 | 136.0 | 2.3 | 133.7 | 20.9 | .4 | 20.6 |
| | Total meat | | | | | | |
| 1961 | 28,575 | 1,325.1 | 110.2 | 1,214.9 | 4.6 | .4 | 4.3 |
| 1962 | 28,940 | 1,798.8 | 101.5 | 1,697.3 | 6.2 | .4 | 5.9 |
| 1963 | 30,546 | 2,047.2 | 175.8 | 1,871.4 | 6.7 | .6 | 6.1 |
| 1964 | 32,660 | 1,431.6 | 205.0 | 1,226.6 | 4.4 | .6 | 3.8 |
| 1965 | 31,466 | 1,347.3 | 111.2 | 1,236.1 | 4.3 | .4 | 3.9 |
| 1966 2/ | 32,582 | 1,721.4 | 99.8 | 1,621.6 | 5.3 | .3 | 5.0 |

1/ Carcass weight equivalent.
2/ Preliminary.

## Other Principal Exports Large In 1966

Among the principal U. S. exports of meat animal products, variety meats continued large at 214.2 million pounds in 1966, although slightly smaller than in the 2 previous years. Exports of lard, tallow and greases also continued large, but somewhat smaller than in most other recent years. Exports of mohair amounted to 10.7 million pounds (clean content) in 1966--up substantially from the 2 preceding years. Exports of cattle hides totaled 14.3 million pieces in 1966, the largest annual export total on record.

## Meat Subject To Import Quota Restriction

Public Law 88-482, enacted in August 1964, limits the volume of imports of certain meats--primarily beef and veal. The limits are related to the level of domestic production of these meats. In 1966, imports of these meats totaled 823.4 million pounds (product weight).

The law provides that if yearly imports of these meats are estimated by the Secretary of Agriculture to equal or exceed 110 percent of the adjusted base quota for the year, the President must proclaim a quota on imports. The adjusted base quota for 1967 is 904.6 million pounds; the level of estimated imports which would trigger its imposition is 995.0 million pounds. The second quarterly estimate of annual U. S. meat imports in 1967--900 million pounds--was announced in March. Thus, imports of meats subject to restriction by quota are expected to be larger this year than in 1966 but to continue below the level permitted by the legislation. In compliance with the law, the Secretary of Agriculture reports to the President on the meat import situation quarterly so as to advise him of any changes that may develop during the year.

## Feeder Cattle Imports

A substantial number of feeder cattle from Mexico and Canada is marketed in the United States each year. There are virtually no imports of feeder cattle from other countries. Total cattle imports, including those for breeding purposes, in the last 5 years have ranged from a low of 0.6 million head in 1964 to a high of 1.3 million head in 1962. In 1966, cattle imports totaled 1 million head. There is no actual tally of imported cattle that are bound for feedlots in the United States, but the weights of dutiable (not for breeding) cattle imported indicate that most are feeder cattle and calves. For example, in each of the last 3 years, 80-85 percent of dutiable cattle imported weighed less than 700 pounds.

The relationship between prices of feeder stock in the United States and in exporting countries is the principal consideration affecting the volume of imports. The supply of cattle suitable for feedlot finishing and range and pasture conditions in Canada and Mexico, and government policy in Mexico, also have a bearing on the volume of imports.

Only a small number of cattle in Mexico go through feedlots. The market for fed beef has not developed in Mexico to the extent it has in the United States, and cattle moving through Mexican feedlots usually are fed for much shorter periods than in the United States. Therefore, the major alternatives open to Mexican ranchers in selling young cattle from the ranges usually are for slaughter in Mexico or for export to the United States.

In most years, Mexican producers export more cattle to the United States than Canadian cattlemen do. The peak months for imports from Canada usually are October and November; while December is the peak month for imports from Mexico. In the early months of the year, imports are considerably larger from Mexico than from Canada. Feeder imports from both countries are relatively small in late spring and throughout the summer.

Most feeder cattle of Mexican origin are purchased in Mexico by feedlot operators in the Southwestern States, or for them by order buyers, and are shipped direct to U.S. feedlots. On the other hand, most feeder cattle of Canadian origin are sold at terminal markets or auctions in the United States.

Table 13.--Meat subject to U.S. import quota restriction: Product weight of imports by months, average 1959-63, 1964-67

| Year | January | February | March | April | May | June | July |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. |
| 1959-63 average | 47,342 | 49,596 | 57,539 | 54,254 | 48,514 | 58,564 | 67,110 |
| 1964 | 87,232 | 44,873 | 68,877 | 61,363 | 51,113 | 98,152 | 43,726 |
| 1965 | 28,181 | 34,498 | 68,654 | 32,404 | 52,329 | 42,062 | 58,512 |
| 1966 | 51,397 | 60,341 | 49,419 | 63,334 | 51,954 | 100,222 | 61,361 |
| 1967 | 77,357 | 58,514 | | | | | |

| Year | August | September | October | November | December | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. |
| 1959-63 average | 84,131 | 76,055 | 61,599 | 56,106 | 61,396 | 722,206 |
| 1964 | 79,453 | 49,651 | 46,384 | 55,726 | 53,363 | 739,913 |
| 1965 | 59,917 | 62,208 | 64,411 | 57,281 | 53,747 | 614,204 |
| 1966 | 87,076 | 91,471 | 79,746 | 61,062 | 66,052 | 823,435 |
| 1967 | | | | | | |

Table 14.--U. S. Imports of cattle from specified countries, excluding breeding animals and cows for dairy purposes, 1959-66

| Year | 700 pounds and over | | | | Under 200 pounds | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Canada | Mexico | Other | Total | Canada | Mexico | Other | Total |
| | Head | Head | Head | Head | Head | Head | Head | Head |
| 1959 | 90,259 | 45,697 | 0 | 135,956 | 30,738 | 1,037 | 0 | 31,775 |
| 1960 | 60,865 | 19,631 | 0 | 80,496 | 32,079 | 1,773 | 0 | 33,852 |
| 1961 | 88,660 | 36,410 | 0 | 125,070 | 28,605 | 8,655 | 0 | 37,260 |
| 1962 | 72,205 | 36,732 | 0 | 108,937 | 41,315 | 24,925 | 0 | 66,240 |
| 1963 | 51,018 | 18,123 | 22 | 69,163 | 36,618 | 27,120 | 1 | 63,739 |
| 1964 | 45,880 | 1,777 | 0 | 47,657 | 50,714 | 13,162 | 0 | 63,876 |
| 1965 | 136,549 | 14,054 | 0 | 150,603 | 64,070 | 16,921 | 0 | 80,991 |
| 1966 1/ | 90,872 | 14,505 | 3 | 105,380 | 104,196 | 22,293 | 5 | 126,494 |
| | 200 to 699 pounds | | | | Total | | | |
| | Canada | Mexico | Other | Total | Canada | Mexico | Other | Total |
| 1959 | 186,630 | 317,095 | 0 | 503,725 | 307,627 | 363,829 | 0 | 671,456 |
| 1960 | 140,471 | 369,113 | 0 | 509,584 | 233,415 | 390,517 | 0 | 623,932 |
| 1961 | 337,452 | 497,999 | 0 | 835,451 | 454,717 | 543,064 | 0 | 997,781 |
| 1962 | 351,336 | 690,228 | 0 | 1,041,564 | 464,856 | 751,885 | 0 | 1,216,741 |
| 1963 | 148,486 | 540,099 | 353 | 688,938 | 236,122 | 585,342 | 376 | 821,840 |
| 1964 | 86,713 | 315,962 | 700 | 403,375 | 183,307 | 330,901 | 700 | 514,908 |
| 1965 | 359,486 | 504,285 | 0 | 863,771 | 560,105 | 535,260 | 0 | 1,095,365 |
| 1966 1/ | 280,522 | 547,287 | 319 | 828,128 | 475,587 | 584,085 | 327 | 1,060,002 |

1/ Preliminary.

Table 15.-- Meat imports: United States, by countries, 1961 to date

| Product and year | Imports, by country of origin, product weight | | | | | | | | | | | | Total imports | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Canada | Mexico | Argentina | Brazil | Denmark | West Germany | Poland | Netherlands | Ireland | Australia | New Zealand | All other | Product weight | Carcass weight equivalent |
| | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. |
| Beef and veal: 1/ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1961 | 32.3 | 53.4 | 65.2 | 16.3 | 6.5 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 64.4 | 233.9 | 154.4 | 62.3 | 689.2 | 1,037 |
| 1962 | 19.4 | 59.3 | 55.9 | 17.2 | 7.7 | .4 | .4 | .1 | 70.7 | 441.7 | 213.6 | 81.1 | 967.5 | 1,440 |
| 1963 | 17.2 | 73.0 | 87.4 | 10.9 | 6.1 | .2 | 1.1 | .1 | 72.9 | 517.0 | 235.7 | 100.8 | 1,122.4 | 1,677 |
| 1964 | 28.8 | 48.9 | 54.4 | 10.4 | .1 | 2/ | .1 | 2/ | 20.1 | 377.1 | 168.1 | 92.4 | 800.4 | 1,085 |
| 1965 | 71.4 | 46.3 | 54.8 | 24.7 | .2 | .1 | .1 | .1 | 7.8 | 307.4 | 103.6 | 84.6 | 701.1 | 942 |
| 1966 3/ | 57.2 | 57.1 | 80.5 | 18.3 | .1 | 2/ | .1 | .1 | 38.4 | 404.1 | 145.0 | 92.4 | 893.3 | 1,204 |
| Lamb and mutton: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1961 | .1 | 2/ | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 2/ | 44.6 | 10.8 | .3 | 55.8 | 101 |
| 1962 | .5 | --- | .1 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | .2 | 65.9 | 11.1 | .4 | 78.2 | 143 |
| 1963 | .7 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 2/ | 65.8 | 14.8 | .5 | 81.8 | 145 |
| 1964 | .7 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 34.4 | 8.8 | .8 | 44.7 | 79 |
| 1965 | .5 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 30.3 | 11.4 | .4 | 42.6 | 72 |
| 1966 3/ | .3 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 63.8 | 11.1 | .2 | 75.4 | 136 |
| Pork: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1961 | 44.7 | .1 | --- | --- | 46.2 | 1.7 | 34.7 | 42.0 | .2 | --- | 2/ | 4.1 | 173.7 | 187 |
| 1962 | 46.8 | 2/ | --- | --- | 63.8 | 1.3 | 39.8 | 43.4 | 2.0 | 2/ | .1 | 6.6 | 203.8 | 216 |
| 1963 | 45.9 | 2/ | --- | --- | 71.0 | .9 | 40.0 | 42.9 | 1.3 | 2/ | .1 | 8.4 | 210.5 | 225 |
| 1964 | 50.6 | --- | 2/ | --- | 66.4 | .7 | 43.9 | 38.2 | .2 | 2/ | 2/ | 10.6 | 210.6 | 268 |
| 1965 | 54.0 | 2/ | --- | --- | 85.2 | .9 | 52.9 | 46.2 | 2.2 | --- | 2/ | 20.9 | 262.3 | 333 |
| 1966 3/ | 47.5 | --- | --- | --- | 116.9 | 1.8 | 51.6 | 65.0 | 1.6 | 2/ | 2/ | 13.9 | 298.3 | 381 |
| Total: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1961 | 77.1 | 53.5 | 65.2 | 16.3 | 52.7 | 2.0 | 34.8 | 42.1 | 64.6 | 278.5 | 165.2 | 66.7 | 918.7 | 1,325 |
| 1962 | 66.7 | 59.3 | 56.0 | 17.2 | 71.5 | 1.7 | 40.2 | 43.5 | 72.9 | 507.6 | 224.8 | 88.1 | 1,249.5 | 1,799 |
| 1963 | 63.8 | 73.0 | 87.4 | 10.9 | 77.1 | 1.1 | 41.1 | 43.0 | 74.2 | 582.8 | 250.6 | 109.7 | 1,414.7 | 2,047 |
| 1964 | 80.1 | 48.9 | 54.4 | 10.4 | 66.5 | .7 | 44.0 | 38.2 | 20.3 | 411.5 | 176.9 | 103.8 | 1,055.7 | 1,432 |
| 1965 | 125.9 | 46.3 | 54.8 | 24.7 | 85.4 | 1.0 | 53.0 | 46.3 | 10.0 | 337.7 | 115.0 | 105.9 | 1,006.0 | 1,347 |
| 1966 3/ | 105.0 | 57.1 | 80.5 | 18.3 | 117.0 | 1.8 | 51.7 | 65.1 | 40.0 | 467.9 | 156.1 | 106.5 | 1,267.0 | 1,721 |

1/ Includes quantities of other canned, prepared or preserved meat n.e.s., assumed to be mostly beef.
2/ Less than 50,000 pounds.
3/ Data are preliminary.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 16.--Meat exports: United States exports and shipments by countries 1962 to date

| Product and year | Exports, by destination, product weight | | | | | | | | | | | Shipments to Territories 1/ | Total exports and shipments | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Canada | Mexico | France | Bahamas | West Germany | Jamaica | Japan | Netherlands | Venezuela | All other | Total | | Product weight | Carcass weight equivalent |
| | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. |
| Beef and veal: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1962 | 16.9 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1.9 | 2/ | 1.2 | 2/ | 0.1 | 2/ | 6.8 | 27.1 | 13.8 | 40.9 | 53 |
| 1963 | 14.9 | .2 | .3 | 2.2 | 2/ | 1.4 | 0.1 | .2 | 2/ | 8.3 | 27.6 | 14.2 | 41.5 | 54 |
| 1964 | 17.2 | .3 | 2.1 | 3.0 | 0.2 | 1.9 | .1 | .5 | 2/ | 31.9 | 57.2 | 22.6 | 79.8 | 96 |
| 1965 | 9.9 | .2 | 1.3 | 3.0 | .3 | 1.3 | .1 | .8 | 0.1 | 26.8 | 43.8 | 27.6 | 71.4 | 97 |
| 1966 4/ | 13.1 | .2 | .5 | 4.0 | .2 | 1.0 | .1 | .3 | 2/ | 9.4 | 28.8 | 32.2 | 61.0 | 88 |
| Lamb and mutton: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1962 | .5 | 2/ | 2/ | .2 | --- | 2/ | --- | --- | 2/ | 1.3 | 2.0 | --- | 2.0 | 3 |
| 1963 | .4 | 2/ | 2/ | .3 | --- | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | .3 | 1.0 | --- | 1.0 | 1 |
| 1964 | .5 | 2/ | 2/ | .4 | 2/ | 2/ | --- | --- | 2/ | .4 | 1.3 | --- | 1.3 | 2 |
| 1965 | .3 | 2/ | 2/ | .4 | --- | 2/ | 2/ | --- | 2/ | .5 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 2.2 | 4 |
| 1966 4/ | .6 | 2/ | 2/ | .4 | --- | 2/ | --- | --- | 2/ | .6 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 2.7 | 5 |
| Pork: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1962 | 33.8 | 6.7 | .1 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 3.5 | 2/ | .2 | 5.1 | 11.0 | 63.7 | 57.5 | 121.2 | 132 |
| 1963 | 84.5 | 6.5 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 1.3 | 4.4 | 15.7 | 3.4 | 4.8 | 12.9 | 138.1 | 58.5 | 196.6 | 208 |
| 1964 | 51.4 | 7.7 | 11.9 | 3.0 | 2.2 | 4.6 | 8.3 | 8.6 | 9.1 | 26.2 | 133.0 | 69.2 | 202.2 | 217 |
| 1965 | 27.1 | 2.0 | 2/ | 2.5 | .2 | 2.9 | .3 | .2 | 3.2 | 9.3 | 47.7 | 61.1 | 108.8 | 130 |
| 1966 4/ | 28.4 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 2.6 | .3 | 2.6 | .1 | .3 | 3.3 | 8.7 | 50.9 | 67.2 | 118.1 | 140 |
| Total: 3/ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1962 | 51.7 | 7.0 | .2 | 4.0 | 1.5 | 4.9 | .1 | .4 | 5.3 | 22.7 | 97.8 | 98.2 | 196.0 | 188 |
| 1963 | 100.4 | 6.9 | 2.8 | 5.1 | 1.3 | 5.8 | 15.8 | 3.6 | 4.9 | 24.5 | 171.1 | 101.9 | 273.1 | 263 |
| 1964 | 69.8 | 8.2 | 14.1 | 6.8 | 2.6 | 6.6 | 8.6 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 63.9 | 199.1 | 131.7 | 330.8 | 315 |
| 1965 | 39.7 | 3.1 | 1.5 | 6.8 | 1.5 | 5.0 | .8 | 1.2 | 3.4 | 45.4 | 108.4 | 118.7 | 216.3 | 231 |
| 1966 4/ | 44.2 | 2.8 | 3.2 | 7.6 | .9 | 4.4 | .6 | .8 | 3.3 | 28.8 | 96.6 | 130.9 | 227.5 | 233 |

1/ Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands and Guam. Starting 1965 includes Wake.
2/ Less than 50,000 pounds.
3/ Including sausage, bologna and frankfurters canned and not canned, sausage ingredients, meat and meat products n.e.c.
4/ Data are preliminary.

Source: Compiled from official records of the Bureau of Census.

In recent years, the Sioux City terminal market has been the largest U.S. market for Canadian feeder cattle. The West Fargo terminal market is another important market. Canadian cattle also are sold at the auctions at Okanogan and Tonasket, Wash. There are some direct sales of feeder cattle from Canada.

Except for relatively small numbers of cattle imported for breeding, a duty is levied on all live cattle imported into the United States. Since January 1, 1948, the levy on most cattle entering the United States has been 1.5 cents to 2.5 cents per pound.

## REVISED ESTIMATES OF MARKETINGS AND PLACEMENTS OF CATTLE ON FEED

By
Richard Crom, ERS-MED

Estimates of annual placements and marketings of cattle on feed in 39 States were published in the October 1965 issue of the Livestock and Meat Situation. These estimates covered the 1955-64 period. They were developed from Statistical Reporting Service's cattle on feed reports and included data on placements and marketings from 13 States in 1955 to 32 States in 1964.

Recent revisions in estimates of marketings and placements of cattle on feed in 32 States over the 1960-64 period necessitate a revision of the 39 State estimates (see tables 17 and 18). Procedures used in estimating placements and marketings are explained in the October 1965 issue of the Situation.

The Livestock and Meat Situation is published in February, March, May, August, October, and November.

The next issue is scheduled for release August 7, 1967.

Table 17.--Reported and estimated placements of cattle on feed in 39 States, 1960-66 1/
(000 head)

| State or region | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ohio | 343 | 352 | 426 | 427 | 441 | 477 | 466 |
| Indiana | 337 | 357 | 387 | 439 | 429 | 477 | 460 |
| Illinois | 1,296 | 1,307 | 1,343 | 1,314 | 1,347 | 1,326 | 1,317 |
| Minnesota | 662 | 601 | 666 | 647 | 764 | 714 | 734 |
| Iowa | 2,595 | 2,617 | 2,860 | 3,085 | 3,228 | 3,219 | 3,829 |
| Missouri | 509 | 501 | 572 | 556 | 618 | 747 | 677 |
| South Dakota | 409 | 495 | 458 | 447 | 583 | 587 | 605 |
| Nebraska | 1,468 | 1,850 | 1,875 | 2,172 | 2,441 | 2,638 | 2,862 |
| Kansas | 655 | 741 | 834 | 954 | 1,035 | 886 | 1,268 |
| Texas | 483 | 617 | 883 | 924 | 981 | 1,144 | 1,548 |
| Colorado | 748 | 777 | 943 | 883 | 977 | 1,206 | 1,295 |
| Arizona | 494 | 531 | 635 | 555 | 624 | 666 | 614 |
| California | 1,646 | 1,767 | 2,062 | 1,845 | 2,030 | 2,319 | 2,251 |
| Oklahoma | 148 | 175 | 187 | 250 | 266 | 314 | 410 |
| Pennsylvania | 152 | 141 | 133 | 124 | 123 | 121 | 132 |
| Michigan | 176 | 194 | 227 | 224 | 213 | 214 | 242 |
| Wisconsin | 164 | 163 | 180 | 169 | 175 | 195 | 201 |
| North Dakota | 195 | 159 | 151 | 151 | 190 | 157 | 140 |
| Montana | 122 | 105 | 102 | 112 | 135 | 150 | 166 |
| Idaho | 236 | 212 | 250 | 229 | 263 | 292 | 332 |
| Utah | 127 | 114 | 116 | 114 | 122 | 140 | 119 |
| Wyoming | 83 | 65 | 71 | 58 | 59 | 63 | 59 |
| New Mexico | 112 | 110 | 151 | 153 | 171 | 186 | 232 |
| Nevada | 43 | 31 | 24 | 37 | 39 | 52 | 67 |
| Washington | 211 | 259 | 270 | 264 | 302 | 302 | 290 |
| Oregon | 120 | 134 | 154 | 142 | 155 | 171 | 184 |
| 26 States | 13,534 | 14,375 | 15,960 | 16,275 | 17,711 | 18,763 | 20,500 |
| 11 Southeastern States, New York and Maryland | 565 | 627 | 656 | 675 | 742 | 776 | 794 |
| 39 States | 14,099 | 15,002 | 16,616 | 16,950 | 18,453 | 19,539 | 21,294 |

1/ Data above (__) in table are reported data. Data below the line are partially or wholly estimated.

Table 18.--Reported and estimated marketings of fed cattle from 39 States, 1960-66 1/

(000 head)

| State or Region | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ohio | 316 | 340 | 376 | 412 | 447 | 456 | 453 |
| Indiana | 327 | 346 | 355 | 400 | 459 | 428 | 470 |
| Illinois | 1,255 | 1,256 | 1,265 | 1,357 | 1,371 | 1,310 | 1,333 |
| Minnesota | 600 | 639 | 609 | 657 | 745 | 684 | 713 |
| Iowa | 2,565 | 2,586 | 2,687 | 3,033 | 3,174 | 3,293 | 3,580 |
| Missouri | 483 | 520 | 542 | 569 | 586 | 660 | 714 |
| South Dakota | 362 | 464 | 451 | 450 | 590 | 561 | 563 |
| Nebraska | 1,434 | 1,704 | 1,822 | 2,048 | 2,436 | 2,438 | 2,781 |
| Kansas | 593 | 695 | 774 | 950 | 1,031 | 857 | 1,162 |
| Texas | 477 | 548 | 756 | 896 | 971 | 1,094 | 1,412 |
| Colorado | 738 | 794 | 815 | 900 | 951 | 1,144 | 1,276 |
| Arizona | 466 | 514 | 568 | 608 | 600 | 650 | 608 |
| California | 1,595 | 1,701 | 1,844 | 1,899 | 2,061 | 2,282 | 2,219 |
| Oklahoma | 143 | 163 | 186 | 218 | 270 | 300 | 369 |
| Pennsylvania | 146 | 141 | 142 | 124 | 123 | 116 | 135 |
| Michigan | 180 | 179 | 208 | 214 | 208 | 219 | 230 |
| Wisconsin | 164 | 163 | 168 | 165 | 175 | 194 | 190 |
| North Dakota | 176 | 199 | 136 | 138 | 182 | 175 | 157 |
| Montana | 115 | 113 | 100 | 98 | 128 | 142 | 168 |
| Idaho | 231 | 234 | 221 | 234 | 255 | 271 | 305 |
| Utah | 117 | 109 | 111 | 118 | 133 | 125 | 139 |
| Wyoming | 82 | 74 | 72 | 64 | 59 | 62 | 65 |
| New Mexico | 113 | 99 | 129 | 145 | 166 | 173 | 204 |
| Nevada | 45 | 37 | 31 | 30 | 38 | 50 | 49 |
| Washington | 220 | 247 | 258 | 267 | 290 | 308 | 290 |
| Oregon | 117 | 130 | 148 | 136 | 147 | 167 | 189 |
| 26 States | 13,060 | 13,995 | 14,774 | 16,130 | 17,596 | 18,159 | 19,774 |
| 11 Southeastern States, New York and Maryland | 561 | 566 | 660 | 677 | 723 | 777 | 823 |
| 39 States | 13,621 | 14,561 | 15,434 | 16,807 | 18,319 | 18,936 | 20,597 |

1/ Data above (__) in table are reported data. Data below the line are partially or wholly estimated.

## BEEF PRODUCTION BY CLASS AND GRADE

By
John Larsen, ERS-ESA

Beef production has doubled, and per capita beef consumption has increased 60 percent since World War II. Moreover, the class and quality of beef produced in 1966 has changed considerably. While these changes are generally known, the magnitude of shifts in production by class and quality are less well documented. The data presented here illustrate the phenomonal rise in beef output as well as some of the major structural changes in the beef industry that occurred during this period.

Several factors are associated with the growth and development of the beef industry since the mid-1940's. For example, during the period the general economy has been strong, incomes have been rising, and the population has climbed 40 percent. These demand factors have had a major impact on the beef industry and were significant elements influencing the nearly 4 percent average annual increase in beef production over the past two decades.

The overall growth of the beef industry, together with a shift in the relative importance of the two major segments, beef and dairy, has significantly influenced the class and quality of all beef produced. Twenty years ago, dairy cattle accounted for nearly half of the total cattle population of 80.6 million head. On January 1, 1967 only a fifth of the cattle inventory of 108.5 million head was dairy cattle. During these 20 years, beef cattle numbers doubled, rising from 42.9 million head to 85.6 million head.

Trends in beef output by class have been somewhat different for the three major groupings of beef animals--steers, heifers and cows. Steer beef production has about doubled since World War II. Until recent years, its proportion of total beef output trended upward. Increased production of this class of beef during the two decades is consistent with the expansion of the beef cattle population. Although the feeding of dairy steers is increasing, the output is probably not yet a significant proportion of the total.

Heifer beef output more than quadrupled during the last 20 years. Its proportion of the total about doubled from around 10 percent in the mid-1940's to near 20 percent in recent years. As beef animals have become an increasingly larger proportion of the total cattle population, more heifers have become available for feeding. An additional factor has been the marked decline in calf slaughter over the past several years.

Cow beef production has shown substantial fluctuations over the years. In general, it has been influenced by weather conditions, feed costs, and calf prices, as well as shifts in the rate of liquidation of dairy animals. The volume of cow beef produced in recent years has not been greatly different from 20 years earlier. However, its proportion of total beef production dropped from around 40 percent 20 years ago to about 20 percent in recent years. The decline in the proportion of cow slaughter is largely a result of the continued expansion of total cattle numbers and the increasing proportion of calves being held to maturity before slaughter.

Changes in beef output by grade have reflected the trend of an increasing proportion of higher quality beef produced as a result of the expansion of the cattle feeding industry. Fed beef output has nearly quadrupled in the post-war years and accounted for most of the gain in total beef production during this period. Twenty years ago, fed beef accounted for a little more than a third of the country's beef output. Last year, about two-thirds of the beef produced was fed beef.

A substantial portion of the increased output of fed beef has been the result of development and growth of commercial feedlots. Commercial feeding has

Table 19--Estimated composition of beef production, 1946-66 1/

| Year | Total prod. 2/ | Beef prod. by class: Steer | Beef prod. by class: Heifer | Beef prod. by class: Cow 3/ | Fed beef: Quantity | Fed beef: Percentage of total | Percentage of total beef by grade 5/: Prime | Choice | Good | Standard | Commercial 4/ | Utility | Canner & Cutter |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Mil. lb. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Mil. lb. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. |
| 1946 | 9,373 | 51.6 | 10.3 | 38.1 | 3,427 | 36.5 | | | | | | | |
| 1947 | 10,432 | 49.2 | 11.3 | 39.5 | 3,560 | 34.1 | 5.5 | 27.6 | 19.0 | | 17.3 | 16.5 | 14.1 |
| 1948 | 9,075 | 49.3 | 10.2 | 40.5 | 3,382 | 37.3 | | | | | | | |
| 1949 | 9,439 | 58.4 | 9.8 | 31.8 | 4,604 | 48.8 | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 9,534 | 57.3 | 9.2 | 33.5 | 4,446 | 46.6 | 6.9 | 34.1 | 18.6 | | 14.5 | 14.6 | 11.3 |
| 1951 | 8,837 | 56.8 | 8.9 | 34.3 | 4,332 | 49.0 | | | | | | | |
| 1952 | 9,650 | 59.5 | 9.4 | 31.1 | 4,870 | 50.5 | | | | | | | |
| 1953 | 12,407 | 58.7 | 9.7 | 31.6 | 5,254 | 42.3 | 5.1 | 34.3 | 18.4 | | 16.1 | 13.0 | 13.1 |
| 1954 | 12,963 | 55.3 | 11.9 | 32.8 | 5,319 | 41.0 | | | | | | | |
| 1955 | 13,569 | 54.2 | 12.7 | 33.1 | 6,068 | 44.7 | | | | | | | |
| 1956 | 14,462 | 56.4 | 12.8 | 30.8 | 6,536 | 45.2 | 4.4 | 32.8 | 21.0 | | 15.8 | 13.0 | 13.0 |
| 1957 | 14,202 | 55.5 | 13.6 | 30.9 | 6,512 | 45.8 | | | | | | | |
| 1958 | 13,330 | 60.2 | 15.0 | 24.8 | 6,760 | 50.7 | | | | | | | |
| 1959 | 13,580 | 60.4 | 19.0 | 20.6 | 7,818 | 57.6 | 3.7 | 36.1 | 27.4 | | 13.7 | 9.8 | 9.3 |
| 1960 | 14,728 | 59.4 | 19.1 | 21.5 | 8,392 | 57.0 | | | | | | | |
| 1961 | 15,300 | 60.6 | 20.9 | 18.5 | 9,561 | 62.5 | | | | | | | |
| 1962 | 15,298 | 60.6 | 20.1 | 19.3 | 9,896 | 64.7 | 2.9 | 46.8 | 18.1 | 11.3 | 4.4 | 8.8 | 7.7 |
| 1963 | 16,428 | 62.4 | 20.5 | 17.1 | 11,038 | 67.2 | | | | | | | |
| 1964 | 18,429 | 62.4 | 19.0 | 18.6 | 12,049 | 65.4 | 2.6 | 49.2 | 16.6 | 10.5 | 3.9 | 8.4 | 8.8 |
| 1965 | 18,699 | 55.8 | 21.4 | 22.8 | 12,038 | 64.4 | 3.5 | 46.5 | 16.8 | 8.5 | 4.5 | 8.4 | 11.8 |
| 1966 | 19,694 | 55.6 | 23.8 | 20.6 | 13,207 | 67.2 | 4.0 | 48.6 | 18.4 | 7.2 | 4.4 | 7.6 | 9.8 |

1/ Data for 1946-56 were originally published in the March 18, 1958 issue of the Livestock and Meat Situation.
2/ Includes production for farm consumption.
3/ Includes bull and stag beef.
4/ Includes Standard and Commercial grades from 1946 through 1960.
5/ Data are 3-year averages from 1946 through 1963.

accelerated the increased output of high quality beef and affected a more rapid shift in the relative supply of the top grades. For example, cattle marketed out of feedlots consist mainly of the top 3 quality grades--Prime, Choice and Good. Until recent years, the estimated proportion of Prime grade generally declined while annual production continued essentially unchanged. Commercial cattle feeders do not generally feed cattle to the high level of finish required to reach this grade. Hence, the major source of Prime grade beef is from farmer-feeders who specialize in feeding Prime quality cattle. Over the years, the number of cattle marketed by such feeders has not changed materially.

The production of Choice grade beef increased threefold during the past 20 years. In more recent years, output of this quality has approached 50 percent of total beef production. Commercial feedlots are the major source of Choice quality beef. Feeding programs of such operations are geared to maximum efficiency. Consequently, commercial feeders aim for Choice quality slaughter cattle. They prefer to move animals as soon as they reach the desired grade since the cost per pound of gain increases rapidly as the animals put on weight.

Production of Good grade beef more than doubled from the mid-1940's to the late 1950's. Since then, output of this quality has been expanded more slowly. Its proportion of total beef output increased through the late 1950's, then declined. However, in recent years, output of this quality has increased somewhat and its proportion of total production remained relatively stable. The declining proportion of Good grade beef of total beef production during the past several years roughly corresponds with the rising proportion of Choice grade. The bulk of Good grade production comes from feedlots although some is produced under different feeding programs.

Production changes of lower grade beef--Standard grade and below--have shown little significant change or trends over the past 20 years. However, its proportion of total beef output declined from around 45-50 percent in the mid-1940's to around 30 percent in recent years. This declining proportion is consistent with increases in the higher quality grades occurring over this period.

Changes in the distribution of beef production by class and grade likely will be less dramatic in the future than have been demonstrated in the past 2 decades. Further shifts in distribution of steer, heifer and cow beef probably will continue in the same direction during the next several years as trends of recent years. That is, the proportion of steer beef will trend downward, although slowly, while heifer beef continues to increase its share. Cow beef's share of the total likely will continue to decline slowly in the years immediately ahead with the extent and duration of such a decline largely dependent on how long dairy liquidation continues and how much further into the calf supply cattle feeders will reach for a source of feeder cattle. While extended periods of extreme drought, high feed costs and lower feeder cattle and calf prices will continue to influence the number of cows slaughtered, the absence of heavy dairy cattle liquidation and relatively stable calf slaughter will tend to reduce wide fluctuations in cow slaughter. Although relative stability in the proportion of total beef output shared by the three major classes is probable in the years ahead, downward pressure on the proportionate level of cow beef likely will continue. As cattlemen increase the productivity of the cow herd, the proportion of steer and heifer beef will tend to rise and the proportion of cow beef to decline.

Unless the relative demand for Prime grade beef strengthens, the proportion of this quality likely will decline in the years ahead. Price differentials between Prime and other quality grades is probably not sufficient to prevent a decline in the proportion of Prime beef produced.

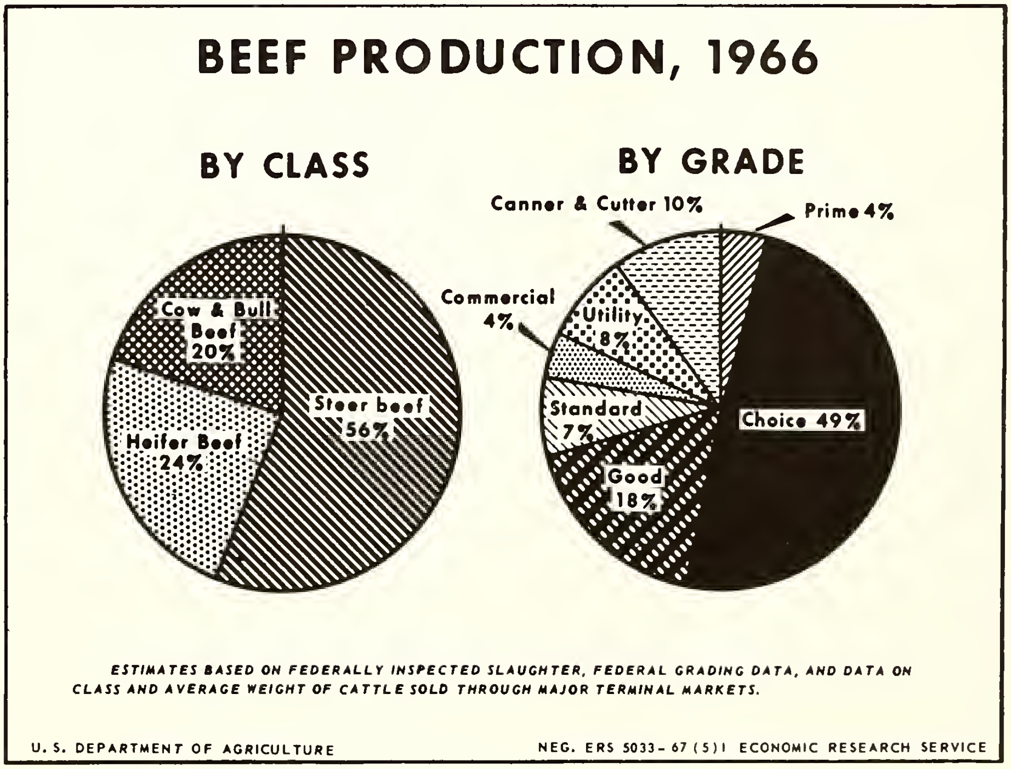
Demand for Choice quality beef shows no apparent signs of weakening and is expected to continue strong. Choice beef will probably continue to be the predominant quality produced and likely will exceed 50 percent of total beef output within

the next few years. Further expansion of commercial cattle feeding is expected to furnish an increasing proportion of Choice grade slaughter cattle. Increases in consumer preference for this quality will provide a strong incentive for further increases in its production.

Although the proportion of Good grade output has not shifted significantly in recent years and may not change materially in the next few years, the long term share of total beef production for this quality likely will be downward. Again, the influence of cattle feeding and consumer preference for higher quality beef will be the key to the rate at which such changes occur.

The declining proportion of the lower grades--Standard and below--will likely continue. Production of Standard quality beef will be reduced by further declines in the number of steers and heifers marketed for slaughter without benefit of feedlot finishing. However, further changes in the relative share of total production included in the 4 lower grades will be largely determined by cow beef output and its relative share of total beef production.

In summary, marked changes have occurred over a relatively short period of time in the class and quality of beef produced in the United States. Future changes are expected to continue in about the same general pattern of recent years but at a slower rate.



Supply and distribution of meat, by months, January 1967 to date

| Meat and period | Commercially produced | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Supply | | | Distribution | | | | |
| | Production 1/ | Beginning stocks | Imports | Exports and shipments | Ending stocks | Military | Civilian consumption: Total | Civilian consumption: Per person 2/ |
| | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Lb. |
| Beef: | | | | | | | | |
| January | 1,728 | 307 | 109 | | 319 | 59 | | |
| February | 1,539 | 319 | 86 | | 313 | 58 | | |
| March | 1,694 | 313 | | | 304 | | | |
| 1st quarter | 4,961 | 307 | | | 304 | | | |
| April | | | | | | | | |
| May | | | | | | | | |
| June | | | | | | | | |
| 2nd quarter | | | | | | | | |
| Veal: | | | | | | | | |
| January | 67 | 11 | 3 | | 15 | 4 | | |
| February | 59 | 15 | 1 | | 13 | 4 | | |
| March | 65 | 13 | | | 13 | | | |
| 1st quarter | 191 | 11 | | | 13 | | | |
| April | | | | | | | | |
| May | | | | | | | | |
| June | | | | | | | | |
| 2nd quarter | | | | | | | | |
| Lamb and mutton: | | | | | | | | |
| January | 60 | 17 | 9 | | 15 | 3/ | | |
| February | 57 | 15 | 9 | | 15 | 3/ | | |
| March | 61 | 15 | | | 16 | | | |
| 1st quarter | 178 | 17 | | | 16 | | | |
| April | | | | | | | | |
| May | | | | | | | | |
| June | | | | | | | | |
| 2nd quarter | | | | | | | | |
| Pork: | | | | | | | | |
| January | 1,106 | 234 | 29 | | 256 | 23 | | |
| February | 975 | 256 | 34 | | 290 | 20 | | |
| March | 1,135 | 290 | | | 337 | | | |
| 1st quarter | 3,216 | 234 | | | 337 | | | |
| April | | | | | | | | |
| May | | | | | | | | |
| June | | | | | | | | |
| 2nd quarter | | | | | | | | |
| All meat: | | | | | | | | |
| January | 2,961 | 569 | 150 | | 605 | 86 | | |
| February | 2,630 | 605 | 130 | | 631 | 82 | | |
| March | 2,955 | 631 | | | 670 | | | |
| 1st quarter | 8.546 | 569 | | | 670 | | | |
| April | | | | | | | | |
| May | | | | | | | | |
| June | | | | | | | | |
| 2nd quarter | | | | | | | | |

1/ Excludes production from farm slaughter.
2/ Derived from estimates by months of population eating out of civilian food supplies.
3/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat

| Item | Unit | 1966 March | 1966 April | 1967 February | 1967 March | 1967 April |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CATTLE AND CALVES: | | | | | | |
| Beef steers, slaughter | Dollars per | | | | | |
| Chicago, Prime | 100 pounds | 31.82 | 30.13 | 25.72 | 25.87 | |
| Choice | do. | 29.22 | 27.98 | 24.92 | 24.67 | |
| Good | do. | 27.00 | 26.23 | 24.06 | 23.69 | |
| Standard | do. | 24.48 | 23.89 | 22.24 | 21.73 | |
| Utility | do. | 21.93 | 21.74 | 20.48 | 19.94 | |
| All grades | do. | 28.96 | 27.73 | 24.92 | 24.65 | |
| Omaha, all grades | do. | 27.53 | 26.34 | 23.68 | 23.42 | |
| Sioux City, all grades | do. | 27.47 | 26.13 | 23.91 | 23.48 | |
| Cows, Chicago | | | | | | |
| Commercial | do. | 19.91 | 20.18 | 17.27 | 17.54 | |
| Utility | do. | 19.51 | 19.70 | 17.92 | 18.00 | |
| Cutter | do. | 18.50 | 19.04 | 17.14 | 17.06 | |
| Canner | do. | 17.30 | 17.89 | 15.80 | 15.71 | |
| Vealers, Choice, S. St. Paul | do. | 35.06 | 32.42 | 32.18 | 32.98 | |
| Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City 1/ | do. | 27.62 | 26.74 | 24.04 | 24.58 | |
| Price received by farmers | | | | | | |
| Beef cattle | do. | 24.00 | 23.50 | 21.60 | 21.50 | 21.60 |
| Cows | do. | 17.70 | 18.00 | 17.00 | 16.70 | 16.70 |
| Steers and heifers | do. | 26.20 | 25.50 | 23.30 | 23.00 | 23.20 |
| Calves | do. | 27.60 | 27.00 | 26.60 | 26.20 | 26.10 |
| Beef steer-corn price ratio 2/ | | 23.1 | 21.7 | 18.1 | 17.8 | |
| HOGS: | | | | | | |
| Barrows and gilts, U. S. No. 1, 2 & 3, Chicago | | | | | | |
| 200-220 pounds | do. | 25.20 | 23.59 | 20.23 | 19.05 | |
| 220-240 pounds | do. | 24.91 | 22.96 | 19.97 | 18.95 | |
| 240-270 pounds | do. | 24.29 | 21.94 | 19.18 | 18.48 | |
| All weights | do. | 24.56 | 22.43 | 19.53 | 18.66 | |
| Barrows and gilts, 8 markets 3/ | do. | 24.41 | 22.26 | 19.38 | 18.43 | |
| Sows, Chicago | do. | 21.50 | 18.86 | 16.14 | 16.10 | |
| Price received by farmers | do. | 24.00 | 22.10 | 18.80 | 17.90 | 17.00 |
| Hog-corn price ratio 4/ | | | | | | |
| Chicago, barrows and gilts | | 19.6 | 17.5 | 14.2 | 13.6 | |
| Price received by farmers, all hogs | | 20.5 | 18.6 | 14.9 | 14.0 | 13.5 |
| SHEEP AND LAMBS: | Dollars per | | | | | |
| Sheep | 100 pounds | | | | | |
| Slaughter ewes, Good, Chicago | do. | 9.00 | 9.35 | 7.50 | 7.50 | |
| Price received by farmers | do. | 8.00 | 7.46 | 6.76 | 6.71 | 6.42 |
| Lamb | | | | | | |
| Slaughter, Choice, Chicago | do. | 27.04 | 26.22 | 21.68 | 22.14 | |
| Feeder, Choice, S. St. Paul | do. | 26.27 | 24.39 | 21.02 | 20.70 | |
| Price received by farmers | do. | 25.70 | 24.30 | 20.10 | 20.60 | 21.00 |
| All meat animals: | | | | | | |
| Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100) | | 380 | 365 | 328 | 323 | 319 |
| MEAT: | | | | | | |
| Wholesale, Chicago, Less than carlot | Dollars per | | | | | |
| Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds | 100 pounds | 46.18 | 44.62 | 41.65 | 40.72 | |
| Lamb carcass, Choice, 45-55 pounds | do. | 54.28 | 51.95 | 47.92 | 48.22 | |
| Fresh pork loins, 8-12 pounds | do. | 55.60 | 52.48 | 48.40 | 45.41 | |
| Retail, United States average | Cents | | | | | |
| Beef, Choice grade | per pound | 86.1 | 86.7 | 83.8 | 83.2 | |
| Pork, retail cuts and sausage | do. | 78.0 | 73.3 | 66.9 | 66.2 | |
| Lamb, Choice grade | do. | 88.5 | 87.0 | 84.2 | 84.1 | |
| Index number all meats (BLS) | | | | | | |
| Wholesale (1957-59=100) | | | | | | |
| Retail (1957-59=100) | | 119.8 | 118.1 | 112.9 | 112.0 | |
| Beef and veal | | 113.9 | 115.1 | 111.8 | 111.4 | |
| Pork | | 131.7 | 124.6 | 113.6 | 112.1 | |

1/ Average all weights and grades
2/ Bushels of No. 3 Yellow Corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of slaughter steers sold out of first hands, Chicago, all grades.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul, and Indianapolis.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meat

| Item | Unit | 1966 March | 1966 April | 1967 February | 1967 March | 1967 April |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Meat animal marketings | | | | | | |
| Index number (1957-59=100) | | 122 | 113 | 113 | 126 | |
| Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States | 1,000 | | | | | |
| Cattle and calves | head | 513 | 466 | 355 | 459 | |
| Sheep and lambs | do. | 120 | 172 | 70 | 71 | |
| Slaughter under Federal inspection | | | | | | |
| Number slaughtered | | | | | | |
| Cattle | do. | 2,232 | 2,103 | 2,105 | 2,338 | |
| Steers | do. | 1,129 | 1,083 | 1,131 | 1,263 | |
| Heifers | do. | 558 | 526 | 528 | 601 | |
| Cows | do. | 511 | 463 | 421 | 444 | |
| Bulls and stags | do. | 34 | 31 | 25 | 30 | |
| Calves | do. | 459 | 370 | 313 | 400 | |
| Sheep and lambs | do. | 1,033 | 972 | 989 | 1,072 | |
| Hogs | do. | 5,806 | 5,303 | 5,652 | 6,725 | |
| Percentage sows | Percent | 5 | 6 | 6 | 5 | |
| Average live weight per head | | | | | | |
| Cattle | Pounds | 1,033 | 1,031 | 1,057 | 1,051 | |
| Calves | do. | 190 | 193 | 194 | 178 | |
| Sheep and lambs | do. | 106 | 104 | 107 | 105 | |
| Hogs | do. | 240 | 243 | 238 | 236 | |
| Average production | | | | | | |
| Beef, per head | do. | 593 | 597 | 615 | 612 | |
| Veal, per head | do. | 105 | 107 | 108 | 99 | |
| Lamb and mutton, per head | do. | 53 | 52 | 53 | 52 | |
| Pork, per head | do. | 151 | 152 | 150 | 148 | |
| Pork, per 100 pounds live weight | do. | 63 | 62 | 63 | 63 | |
| Lard, per head | do. | 25 | 28 | 25 | 25 | |
| Lard, per 100 pounds live weight | do. | 10 | 11 | 11 | 10 | |
| Total production | Million | | | | | |
| Beef | pounds | 1,319 | 1,252 | 1,291 | 1,427 | |
| Veal | do. | 48 | 39 | 34 | 39 | |
| Lamb and mutton | do. | 54 | 50 | 52 | 56 | |
| Pork | do. | 878 | 804 | 845 | 996 | |
| Lard | do. | 144 | 149 | 143 | 166 | |
| Commercial slaughter 1/ | | | | | | |
| Number slaughtered | 1,000 | | | | | |
| Cattle | head | 2,788 | 2,601 | 2,577 | 2,852 | |
| Calves | do. | 658 | 544 | 465 | 561 | |
| Sheep and lambs | do. | 1,131 | 1,082 | 1,074 | 1,185 | |
| Hogs | do. | 6,716 | 6,137 | 6,567 | 7,684 | |
| Total production | Million | | | | | |
| Beef | pounds | 1,604 | 1,506 | 1,539 | 1,694 | |
| Veal | do. | 80 | 69 | 59 | 65 | |
| Lamb and mutton | do. | 59 | 55 | 57 | 61 | |
| Pork | do. | 1,006 | 922 | 975 | 1,135 | |
| Lard | do. | 163 | 166 | 162 | 184 | |
| Cold storage stocks first of month | | | | | | |
| Beef | do. | 248 | 228 | 319 | 313 | |
| Veal | do. | 8 | 8 | 15 | 13 | |
| Lamb and mutton | do. | 11 | 13 | 15 | 16 | |
| Pork | do. | 183 | 217 | 256 | 293 | |
| Total meat and meat products 2/ | do. | 506 | 528 | 668 | 701 | |

1/ Beginning 1966 federally inspected and other commercial plants including custom slaughtering of animals for farmers. Data not comparable with other years.

2/ Includes stocks of canned meats in cooler in addition to the four meats listed.

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LMS-155 MAY 1967

LIST OF TABLES



Standard Summary Tables



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